

# COMPASS

37TH EDITION DECEMBER 2014



## COMPANY NEWS

FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF COLUMBIA

[WWW.COLUMBIA-SHIPMANAGEMENT.COM](http://WWW.COLUMBIA-SHIPMANAGEMENT.COM)

20<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

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## FRONT COVER

"Vintage Compasses – The Passage of Time"

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# EDITORIAL TEAM

Dear Reader,

Welcome back. This year Compass turned 20 years old. To celebrate we have made this issue extra special with a review of the past year.

Inside these pages we have news from around the globe, from our offices to our ships, company developments, and in-depth interviews. A new section has been added, 'CSM Birth Announcements' on page 69, where we are delighted to welcome smaller members into our Columbia family!

Congratulations to our winners of the Compass photo competition who can be found on page 55. Sincere thanks to all past and present writers who made time to write from Compass since day one.

Please continue to send in any ideas, articles or photos which you would like to share.

Best wishes for the New Year, wherever you may be.

Enjoy the read!

Kind regards,  
The Editorial Team

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Reader,

Unfortunately, the shipping market has not changed in the year 2014. So, the pessimists were right and who expected an improvement of the worldwide shipping markets not earlier than 2015, maybe even later. Optimists, like myself, however, who expected an upward trend in the shipping market in 2014 were wrong.

The unfortunate slow economic development in the world and its problems arising like the sluggish economy in the USA, Europe, Japan and China, as well as problems in

South America, the Ebola crisis in Africa and the uproar in many parts of the Middle East, have definitely not helped and created a drawback. Charter rates and vessels' values are at their lowest since 8 years.

We can only hope that eventually the world economy will pick up again.

At Columbia, during 2014, we have been quite busy in increasing our portfolio of vessels under full management for the benefit of Singapore, as well as for Cyprus and Hamburg.

In this issue of Compass, you will see that we have opened a fully fledged ship management office in Shanghai to offer our services to the mainland Chinese shipping industry. We already have our first vessels under full management operating out of Shanghai with good prospects for increasing the number substantially in the near future. It does help us that we are regarded internationally as a very reliable, cost-conscious and customer orientated ship manager. We are in the service industry and it is our job to serve and to keep our owners, who are our customers, happy in all



respects with flawless operation and good and reasonable running expenses.

The shipping industry, as from January 2015, has to comply again with the new MARPOL rules under the Annex Nr. VI. This applies for vessels trading within the emission controlled areas (ECA's) which have been established in North America, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. For the vast majority of ship operators this will require the use of far more expensive distilled fuel and the use of gas oil/diesel oil with a sulfur content of less than 0.1%. Our problem is that distillates have about 50% higher costs than the heavy fuel that most ships currently burn. Another question is to which extent the refineries will be able to produce distillates in the quantities that will be required. There is also the fear that the cost might even increase further. So, economics are a major challenge here.

However, there are additional technical aspects which have to be checked with the engine manufacturers whether modifications are required in order to allow the use of gas or diesel oil.

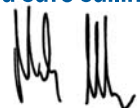
We have to convert fuel oil tanks which have been used previously for heavy

fuel oil. They have to be cleaned and, of course, the heating coils of these tanks have to be disconnected. It may also become necessary to arrange for the supply of the main engine with fuel by two entirely separate circulation systems for heavy fuel oil and gas/diesel oil and to modify the piping system accordingly. Otherwise, contamination might be the result.

As we can expect that with the Port State Control checking the compliance of the use of low sulfur fuel very thoroughly, the vessels have to be prepared to keep exact records evidencing the compliance of the fuel within MARPOL limits.

A written procedure with details of this switch-over process and installation is to be carried out on board. All documents have to show the exact time of the switch-over, the position of the vessel at the time, and, of course, exact information of the bunker quantities. Columbia will separately issue exact instructions as to how to deal with these procedures.

**Wishing you always a Safe Sailing.**



**Heinrich Schoeller**

## CSM SHANGHAI OFFICE OPENING

China is rapidly becoming a significant player in the international shipping industry with more and more Chinese companies and private individuals becoming involved in ship owning. As such, it was only natural for Columbia Shipmanagement to seek possibilities to expand its already long relationship with China, a relationship which Columbia has enjoyed since 1987, through new vessel shipbuilding and supervision projects, as well as providing full ship management services to an ever growing Chinese Ship Owning community.

In 2013, Mr. Schoeller approved the exploration of a joint venture partnership with strategic local Chinese company, Singhai Marine Services with offices in Shanghai and Singapore. Singhai's core business is that of a Chinese Manning Agency involved in recruitment, training and supply of Chinese seafarers to international ship owners, making the partnership with Singhai a strategic one, not only in terms of a local partner with extensive knowledge and contacts in the Chinese shipping industry but also in terms of future development of Chinese seafarers



(L-R) Mr. Heinrich Schoeller (Chairman of Schoeller Holdings Ltd.), Mr. Zhang Wei, Deputy Mayor of Hongkou (Government official), Mr. Sergio Xia Shi Jun, Head of Marine (ZMI), Mr. Demetris Chrysostomou, Marketing Director (CSM Cyprus), Mr. Terence Zhao, Managing Director (Singhai Marine Services), Mr. Zhang Jian Guo, Vice Deputy Secretary General of Seafarer Association, Mr. Rangel Vassilev, General Manager (CSM Shanghai)

for Columbia and Columbia's Chinese Clients. With the support of our JV partner, Mr Terence Zhoawei, Columbia Shipmanagement Shanghai was officially incorporated on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and granted an International Shipmanagement License. The Hongkou District Government, Shanghai Transport and Port Authority, the Water Transportation Administration Bureau of the Ministry of Transport, have provided valuable assistance through the registration and licensing process of the joint venture.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014, Columbia Shipmanagement and Singhai Marine Services celebrated the official opening of their joint venture ship management company Columbia Shipmanagement (Shanghai) Co Ltd. The opening ceremony was held in Shanghai and attended by over 150 guests, including the Vice District Mayor of the Shanghai Hongkou District Government, representatives from the Shanghai Transport and Port Authority, representatives from Shanghai Maritime Safety Administration, leaders and guests from the Shanghai maritime and shipping industry as well as numerous Chinese and international dignitaries and guests.

From Columbia's side, the event was attended by Mr. Heinrich Schoeller, Chairman of Columbia Shipmanagement, Demetris Chrysostomou and Ruben

Oggel in their capacity as Columbia's representatives on the Board of Directors of Columbia Shanghai, Mr Rangel Vassilev as General Manager of Columbia Shanghai and Captain Andreas Xapolytos, Managing Director of Columbia Singapore, also being the Head Office for Columbia Shanghai. Columbia Shipmanagement Shanghai will operate initially as a branch office of Columbia Singapore with the same high standards and quality systems of the Columbia Group, ensuring our Chinese clients will receive competitive services in a professional and transparent manner.

The Columbia Shanghai Office team is built around the General Manager, Mr. Rangel Vassilev who has been with CSM since 2005. The team consists of: Mr. Li Zhi Gang aka Jacky - TSI tankers, Mr. Ding Yu Yang – TSI dry fleet, Mr. Zhou Yu Chun aka YC – purchasing and Ms LiPing – accounting. As of October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, all staff members have commenced their duties in the Columbia Shipmanagement Shanghai office after undergoing extensive training in our Singapore office. Columbia Shipmanagement Shanghai aims to contribute to China's global shipping aspirations and enhance the quality and competitiveness of Chinese shipping on an international level.

**Demetris Chrysostomou**  
Marketing Director  
Columbia Shipmanagement (Cyprus) Ltd.



# INTRODUCING COLUMBIA CRUISE SERVICES



## COLUMBIA CRUISE SERVICES

We are pleased to announce the establishment of Columbia Cruise Services (CCS), a company solely dedicated to the management of passenger vessels and large yachts, operating out of Hamburg.

CCS is specializing in cruise vessel management, which has become an important and growing part of Columbia's portfolio since 1985.

CCS offers a comprehensive range of full management services to passenger vessels, expedition vessels and luxury yachts. We aim to provide a wide variety of services, with special attention given to custom made contracts.

We shall advise with further updates in the next issue of Compass magazine. Meanwhile, a big thank you to all involved for all their efforts in setting up this new company. We are excited about the path ahead, and look forward to a successful New Year in cruise management.

**Olaf Groeger**  
Director

Columbia Cruise Services



## A NEW UPT VENTURE

In February 2014 a new office of UPT started its operation in Limassol, Cyprus. A team consisting of 18, previously employed by Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd and Donnelly Tanker Management, have joined forces in post-fixture operations and accounting looking after a fleet of 42 tanker vessels.

United Product Tankers GmbH & Co.KG, located in Hamburg, has been providing tanker chartering services for CSM since early 2000. Starting from the delivery of a modern handy tanker Cape Bon in 2002, the fleet began its renewal.

The first UPT Handy pool was formed in 2004, whereby UPT became the pool manager, finding employment for its entrusted tankers, while post-fixture operations and accounting functions remained to be carried out from Cyprus. As time passed by, more tankers were entering into the commercial management of UPT. A Panamax pool was formed in 2008 and another UPT office opened up in Stamford, Connecticut thus securing better chartering, geographical coverage and taking advantage of the overseas markets.

Last year, in order to complete the organisational circle and have all

related activities performed under one umbrella, a strategic decision to establish an office in Limassol, Cyprus was taken by the shareholders. Thus UPT became a completely independent company with all related activities - chartering, operations and accounting undertaken in-house.

A lot of efforts were put into choosing the right team, finding suitable premises and preparing the IT infrastructure.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014, the new office started functioning (pictured below).



Another purpose for establishing UPT Cyprus was to find ways of optimizing the performance of its fleet. It's no secret that with the difficult economic situation all market participants are actively searching for ways to minimize expenditures and improve vessel's earnings. This task has become our everyday routine. A revision of various agency and towage contracts is being carried out. Vessel's speed and consumption performance are carefully scrutinized, passage routing constantly checked upon and benchmarking between various vessels and routes conducted, to identify the most economic ones.

Close cooperation between chartering and operations teams help to optimize positioning of the fleet, which in turn makes the most of vessel's

characteristics and capabilities.

UPT United Product Tankers Limited is located in the heart of Limassol. We are all proud of our new company. With the commitment and contribution of all its employees, I am sure we will take UPT forward. Setting high targets to become one of the leading companies on the market, we all realise the importance of dynamic development using the latest technologies.

Daily life is ever changing. UPT is ready for challenges and is looking into the bright future ahead of us.

As always, wishing all safe seas and prosperity.

**Yuriy Garbovskyy**

Deputy General Manager

UPT United Product Tankers Limited, Cyprus



Greetings from the UPT team!



# CSM BUSINESS NEWS

## AAL expands Pacific Service

AAL expanded its pendulum general cargo and project cargo liner service connecting North Asia with the Pacific North West / Canada into the US West Coast. This service is commonly known as the AAL Pacific Service.

Three owned 31,000 deadweight multipurpose heavy lift A-Class vessels, with a combined lifting capacity of 700ts currently operate the service on monthly frequency. These vessels are AAL Melbourne, AAL Brisbane and AAL Singapore. The AAL Pacific Service presently calls ports of Shanghai, Qingdao, Dalian, Tianjin, Pusan, Kobe/Osaka (on inducement), Yokohama (on inducement) – Long Beach (on inducement), Everett and Vancouver (CA).



## AAL introduces a passenger service

Passengers seeking an alternative and more unique mode of travel compared with traditional cruise liner services can now sail onboard one of AAL's modern heavy lift vessels.

The three 31,000 deadweight A-Class vessels AAL Newcastle, AAL Hong Kong and AAL Shanghai are currently employed on the Australia East Coast and New Zealand service and cover the following ports: Brisbane, Newcastle, Melbourne, Lyttelton, Wellington, Tauranga, Tianjin, Qingdao, Shanghai, Inchon, Pusan and Kaohsiung. The liner service covers the full rotation in approximately 93 days. Passengers can complete a full round voyage or select their embarkation and disembarkation ports (subject to visas and local regulations).

"The route offers a variety of countries and cultures, and the nature of our operations (project and breakbulk cargoes) allows sufficient time in port for our passengers to explore" says Christophe Grammare, Managing Director of AAL.

If you wish to receive our Schoeller Holdings newsletter please email: [marketing@csmcy.com](mailto:marketing@csmcy.com)

## TCM achieves ISO 50001 certification

Lloyd's Register has awarded Tsakos Columbia Shipmanagement S.A (TCM) with ISO 50001 certification attesting TCM's commitment to continuously improve the energy efficiency of its fleet.

TCM is an Athens based shipmanagement company founded by The Tsakos Group of Companies and Schoeller Holdings in 2010. The joint venture is a testament to their close working relationship that started more than ten years ago.

The ISO 50001 standard is a voluntary international energy management system that specifies the requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and improving an energy management system. It offers companies a systematic approach to continually improve energy performance, including energy efficiency, use and consumption.



## Introducing the Maria Tsakos TCM Academy

Captain Panagiotis N. Tsakos, founder of the Tsakos Group in 1970, is passionate when it comes to the human factor in shipping: "Competent crew is the most important resource the company has". Accordingly Tsakos Columbia Shipmanagement allocates significant resources in effectively managing the competence of its seagoing and shore personnel. In 2013, TCM opened their own maritime training centre: the Maria Tsakos TCM Academy. Fully equipped with the latest range of Kongsberg simulators, the training centre occupies some 500 square meters on the fifth floor of the Tsakos headquarters in Athens.

The Maria Tsakos TCM Academy has been accredited as an Approved Training Provider by Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance. The academy has obtained approval for two courses: Operational use of electronic chart display and information system (ECDIS) and Oil Record Book. The certified Quality Management System against ISO 9001 is applicable to the "Provision of Training Services to Shipping Company Personnel and Seafarers".

## THE LARGEST CRANE IN CANADA DELIVERED BY AAL SHANGHAI

In mid-February, Seaspan's Vancouver Shipyards took delivery of a 300-tonne Gantry Crane – the crowning piece in their \$200-million modernization program. Once erected, the crane will be the largest in Canada, towering 80 metres high and spanning 76 metres wide. Designed and built by Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industry Co. Ltd.

(ZPMC) and weighing over 1,000 metric tonnes, the shipment of the crane highlights a new service for heavy-lift cargo projects offered by Austral Asia Line (AAL) for the U.S. and Canadian West Coast. Working closely with Fraser Surrey Docks (FSD) and Pacific Rim Stevedoring (PRS), Austral Asia Line began offering heavy-lift cargo



AAL Shanghai with gantry crane

Photos of the erected crane can be seen here:

[seaspan.com](http://seaspan.com) > [Service & Companies](#) > [Vancouver Shipyards](#) > [Video-Gallery](#) > [Corporate Videos](#)



projects and break bulk (steel, pipe, round bar, etc.) in the West Coast last spring. "AAL is a great fit for Fraser Surrey Docks," said Brady Erno, Manager of Sales and Customer Service, Fraser Surrey Docks (FSD). "We have the capabilities and have been growing that side of our business – especially for companies looking for heavy-lift projects out of Asia and Europe."

James Clouse, AAL's representative on the West Coast, noted that, in addition to bringing in heavy-lift cargo on a regular basis (at least once a month), AAL is taking timber and forest products back to Asia. "We have the very unique capacity to be able to bring in heavy cargo and also cater to the already existing forest product service here."

AAL's service directly from Asia to the West Coast is a significant step in developing British Columbia as an import and export project cargo gateway. "Not only are we developing the east-bound heavy-lift cargo project sector but we're also developing a west-bound service out of Canada," said Clouse. "We're working with FSD and Pacific Rim

Stevedoring (who are key for the unloading and discharge operations) to attract exports – project cargo and break bulk cargo leaving Canada.

No other heavy-lift carrier has a backhaul and the ships that are doing backhauls aren't large enough to cater to these cargoes. We're in a much better position to bring cargo in because of our unparalleled capacity and regularity on the West Coast".

"Projects like the Seaspan crane take months of planning," said Clouse, himself an engineer with super heavy lift experience. "There are lifting plans, stability calculations, lashing calculations and bedding plans to make sure the cargo and the vessel aren't damaged underway. Our crews, provided by Columbia Shipmanagement, are experts in seamanship and proper handling of lift cargo which is essential." He further noted that the experience of Pacific Rim Stevedoring and Fraser Surrey Docks has gone a long way in making these projects successful. "It's like a big orchestra – lots of moving parts that require a great deal of co-ordination and the professionalism of FSD and PRS have been exceptional."

## AMVER AWARDS FOR COLUMBIA

### SAVING LIVES AT SEA



Mr. Benjamin M. Strong,  
Director of Amver Maritime Relations (left)  
with Mr. Carsten Sommerhage (right),  
Managing Director of CSM Germany

Fourteen German shipping companies including Columbia Shipmanagement received the US Coast Guard's prestigious AMVER Award for Outstanding Achievements in the area of rescue operations at sea. The awards were presented during a reception at the US Consulate General in Hamburg on 10 September 2014.

The Amver System (Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System) which is sponsored by the United States Coast Guard, is a unique, computer-based, and voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea.

Merchant ship owners or managers enter specific information about their

vessels into the Amver database.

This information along with position reports sent by the vessels to the Amver computer centre allows search and rescue controllers to predict the position of each ship in case of an emergency. The nearest ship will then be diverted in order to respond to the rescue call. The Amver Awards Program recognizes those vessels which regularly participate in the Amver system. Vessels with at least 128 days on the Amver plot in a calendar year are eligible for an award.

Many Columbia vessels were awarded for their participation, however our vessels Nordic Mistral and King Robert received a Gold Award. GOLD is awarded once a vessel completes five consecutive years of eligibility for an Amver award. The vessels Cape Tampa and King Fraser received a BLUE award. The BLUE ensign is for vessels that complete their first year of participation and are being honored for the first time.

Our Managing Director of Columbia Shipmanagement Deutschland, Mr. Carsten Sommerhage, took this opportunity to thank all our Captains



The U.S. Ambassador Mr. John Koenig with our Managing Director Mr. Maurice Baker.

### **COLUMBIA CYPRUS VESSELS RECEIVE AMVER AWARD**

Since our last Compass issue the AMVER awards ceremony took place on 13 November 2013, at the offices of SCF Unicom in Limassol. The U.S. Embassy in Nicosia, in cooperation with the Cyprus Shipping Chamber and the Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association (CYMEPA), organized the ceremony to recognize shipping companies participating in the U.S. AMVER program.

Our Managing Director Mr. Maurice Baker attended the ceremony and received the awards for our vessels.

**Yiola Hadjichristodoulou**  
Quality Assurance Officer

and crew for their bravery and reliability, stating "In today's world more and more people believe that shipping is a transport industry which is able to be scheduled like trains on a sunny summer day. People are getting more and more distanced from the power of nature. You know from daily experience that shipping will always be performed in an environment which can be very nice but also very brutal. This is the reason why I believe seamen retain a special kind of humbleness for nature and risks associated to their profession.

Despite constant new technical achievements to "optimize" shipping, which don't necessarily make ships safer, you can be very lonely on the high seas when help is required. Therefore the unspoken common understanding to help other seaman in distress is something very special in all seamen's character and should never be overcast by commercial considerations.

To participate in the voluntary AMVER system is therefore not a question but a matter of course from seamen's pride".

**Editorial Team**

# PETROLINA OCEAN

## CHOSEN FOR MARINE RESEARCH PROJECT

Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. has agreed to make the 'Petrolina Ocean' available as a ship-of-opportunity for surveys by the Cyprus Institute as part of a Marine Research Project.

The Cyprus Institute's involvement in this project lies in the use of a Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) to determine the abundance and taxonomy of plankton in the eastern Mediterranean. The CPR works by filtering plankton from the water over long distances. 'Petrolina Ocean' will tow the Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR)

and collect samples during its regular route from Cyprus to Haifa, Israel.

The first CPR tow in the Eastern Mediterranean has been successfully realized on the 21st of October 2014 when Dr. Carlos Jimenez, Associate Research Scientist, and the vessel's crew put the CPR in the water soon after the vessel left Haifa. The CPR remained in the water for the complete voyage and was hauled in just before arrival at the port of Larnaca. The operation was successful in that the CPR immediately went to its operating depth of 6-10



The team behind the first ever CPR tow in the Eastern Mediterranean



metres and viable plankton samples were collected.

This success is a product of long and careful preparation. The ongoing plan is to conduct monthly tows of the CPR for the foreseeable future. By building a database of monthly tows the Institute will have adequate scientific data to assert conclusions in the long term. The route was chosen due to the unique marine-biological characteristics of this part of the Eastern Mediterranean, aka the Levantine Sea where the main focus is to study the effects of alien species coming from the Red Sea via the Suez Canal.

The Cyprus Institute ([www.cyi.ac.cy](http://www.cyi.ac.cy)) is a non-profit research and postgraduate education institution with a scientific

and technological orientation, which operates under the aegis of the Cyprus Research and Educational Foundation.

This large-scale EU-funded innovative marine research project entitled PERSEUS was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012, the acronym stands for 'Policy-oriented Marine Environmental Research in the Southern European Seas'. PERSEUS' main purpose is to combat marine ecosystem degradation through a structure of adaptive policies.

The new knowledge resulting from PERSEUS research is highly valuable to policymakers, the scientific community, media and the general public for jointly participating to achieve 'Clean Seas by 2020'.



## Launch of the Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) survey in the Mediterranean.



Preparing the CPR for deployment

The CPR is a robust device weighing 185kgs, including 100 meters of 10mm steel wire and is towed at a depth of about 10 meters, at speeds of up to 25 knots and in wind-force-eight-conditions. As per the diagram below, the plankton is captured between two layers of silk which is fed onto the storage drum for later analysis. The silk is driven by a propeller calibrated to give a continuous sample so that when

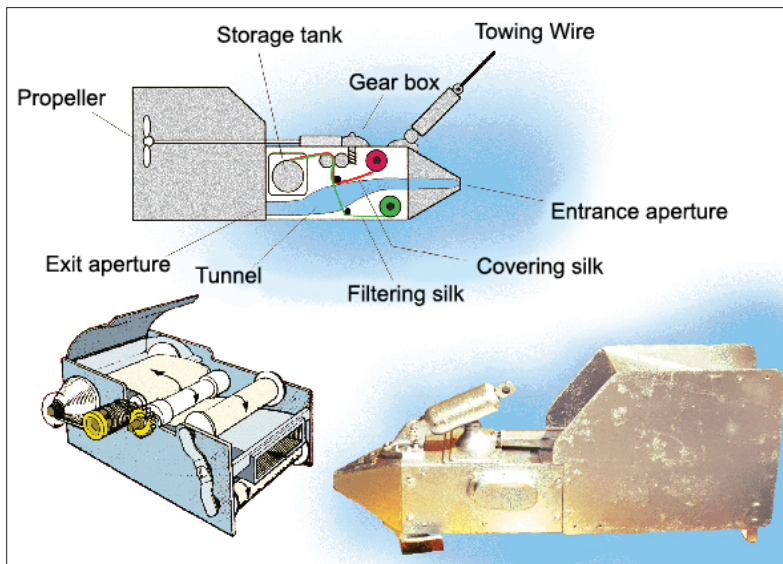


Preparing a sampling cartridge

compared with the ship's position, the samples' origin can accurately be ascertained. This will be an ongoing project, with further updates to follow. Thanks to Lefkaritis Brothers Ocean Ltd for making their vessel available to us. We would also like to thank our Captain and crew. Without their valuable assistance this project would not be possible.

**Tim Hazeldine**

Technical Superintendent  
Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. (Cyprus)



# CREWING NEWS

## A CELEBRATION OF 10 YEARS FOR CSM NOVOROSSIYSK!

The anniversary of a company's founding is a very important holiday. Calendar holidays are celebrated by everybody all over the world but a company anniversary is a unique day filled with special meaning; it's a day that brings together the staff of that organization.

Since our last issue of Compass, we have such an anniversary to report.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 2013 in a stylish restaurant called 'Myskhako' a significant event took place: the celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CSM Novorossiysk!



Traditionally, the celebration opened with a congratulatory speech from the director Mr. Panyushkin Sergey. He warmly congratulated everybody on the jubilee of the company. Although time flew by very fast it was intense and at times not easy. CSM Novo grew from a small support office to a bastion of Columbia for tanker crew.

Our most treasured element is our people who have been working for CSM on Oil/Product/Chemical Tankers for more than 10 years. They are all loyal, professional and clearly understand the company's needs and are always ready to help.



Our senior colleagues share their own experience amongst the new generation and have already prepared many exceptional, young and bright Officers. We are proud to work together and achieve very good results with a respected reputation.

It was an enjoyable evening and everybody was in good spirits. There was an entertainment program including a show, dancing, wine

tasting and many other activities. We hope it will support our company spirit for a long time to come. All of the staff thanked the company for their long-term cooperation, understanding and support. We hope that the winds of change will never rock us and that Columbia's flag will proudly continue to flutter on the vessels' masts.

**Captain Sergey Panyushkin**  
Director  
CSM Novorossiysk





# CREWING NEWS

## VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

On the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 a delegation from CSM and TCM consisting of Mr. Heinrich Schoeller, Mr. Panagiotis Drosos, Mr. Norman Schmiedl and Mr. Georg Buseman accepted the invitation of The Ethiopian Maritime Training Institute (EMTI) to attend the graduation ceremony of engine cadet batch No. 7 and electrical cadet batch No. 2.

At the same time they were also invited for the inauguration ceremony of the new training campus which was built right by the shores of Lake Tana.

EMTI is the only training center in Ethiopia to provide maritime courses for engine and electrical cadets. EMTI is part of the Bahir Dar University which is located 578 kilometers from the capital Addis Ababa.

The first course, consisting of 20 engine cadets, started in 2010 and since then



EMTI has successfully trained over 800 cadets; many already sail as junior engineers.

In 2013 EMTI began an Electro-Technical Officer (ETO) course for graduate electrical engineers. CSM was involved from the beginning and assisted in developing the course. After its completion we sent our travelling electrician Mr. Zeljko Visnjic to carry out an audit; the results were excellent.

During our visit, we also had the chance to meet with the cadets and lecturers.



The high level of dedication this project is being conducted with was clearly evident. All cadets were extremely proud and grateful for the opportunity they were given.

Mr. Schmiedl and Mr. Buseman took the opportunity to interview 12 of the graduate cadets and the results were exceptional.

It was in 2012 when CSM and TCM recognised the potential of EMTI as a successful partner in providing qualified and motivated seafarers. Since then we have employed over 40 cadets and the number is rising with each graduating class.



We wish all our Ethiopian colleagues a prosperous career with CSM and TCM.

**Georg Buseman**

Human Resource Manager Seagoing Personnel

**Norman Schmiedl**

Crewing Director





# OPEN REPORTING SYSTEM

## DEAR CONCERNED EMPLOYEE,

Compliance with environmental and safety regulations is every employee's responsibility. As part of that responsibility, it is your duty to promptly inform the Company of any practice onboard that contradicts, or you suspect to contradict the MARPOL rules, any other regulations or Columbia Shipmanagement Policies.

The Company urges all employees to report such information to the **MASTER** onboard or contact directly by telephone call, SMS-text or e-mail:

- the **DESIGNATED PERSON ASHORE (DPA)** or
- the **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE MANAGER (ECM)**.

You may also use the specific e-mail address: **openreporting@csm-d.com**.

If you prefer not to report directly to the Company, you may also report to a dedicated **THIRD PARTY** at the e-mail address: **open-reporting@open-reporting.com** or call the toll-free telephone number: **+800-19293949**.

You will not have to reveal your name but if you wish to do so, then we assure you that your identity will be held in strict confidence.

**COLUMBIA SHIPMANAGEMENT WILL NOT RETALIATE AGAINST  
ANY CREWMEMBER MAKING SUCH REPORT.**

**WE RELY ON YOUR COOPERATION.**

The Management of Columbia Shipmanagement, January 2014



## ‘NEVER AGAIN’ DVD RELEASED

Following earlier Marpol violations, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August of 2014 Columbia Shipmanagement has released an awareness DVD to its entire staff. The film was presented by a known British Broadcast Corporation (BBC) presenter Mr. Edward Stourton.

The purpose of the DVD was to make all staff aware of what has exactly happened at the time on board the 4 guilty ships, the consequences of such wrong doing and company's new strict compliance culture.

The new compliance culture does not only apply to Engine Room practices but simply to all aspects of ship management services ashore and on board. Nothing short of full compliance of Company's Management Systems, together with International



Rules and Regulations is expected from all staff.

All Columbia staff, ashore and on board, will receive a copy of DVD together with an explanatory letter.

We urge everyone to watch the DVD regularly in order to remind themselves of its contents.

**Captain Maurice Baker**  
Managing Director

Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. (Cyprus)





## TRIBUTE FOR HERBERT MICKESCH JR.

Since our last issue of Compass it is with great sadness we have to inform readers that Mr. Herbert Mikesch Jr., Deputy Manager of NavCom Group Columbia Shipmanagement, passed away 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013 following a fatal car accident. Herbert leaves behind his wife Anastasia, and young daughters Irini and Eleonora. Herbert was a proud father giving his children all the love and care a human being is able to give. We have lost a friend and a dedicated colleague who worked with passion and was always ready to support our vessels and office staff. Herbert started as a Field Engineer onboard CSM vessels for all kinds of IT/Satcom-setup. Since 2005 he worked ashore at our Columbia Cyprus office totaling 15 years.



Herbert was my friend, a real friend with an outstanding character. I was introduced to him 9 years ago by his father Herbert Mikesch Sr. Very soon we found what is called a good chemistry. Most likely because we shared the same values: passion



to work, to support others and to give the best to keep our vessels up and sailing the flag of Columbia on all oceans. We started with different fields of experience whereas Herbert provided the focus on Satcom and IT. Over the years we have learned to back up each other covering our growing fleet.

Working together so closely we became friends. When I saw Herbert kite-surfing I saw a happy man. And if you have seen him talking about his family you saw the pride in his eyes.

Herbert's port of recreation was his family and home. He was a hobby gardener planting trees, also with passion. He respected all kind of animal life: another attitude we shared. Of course we had our small "games": Sometimes we tried to identify the differences between an Austrian and a German. All with big humor, another remarkable character of Herbert.



Herbert with his family.



Herbert with his father Mr. Mikesch Sr.  
in the NavCom office.

Our Masters, a lot of them met Herbert personally, knew that they could call him whenever necessary for support. Herbert was a proud and committed part of Columbia enjoying an excellent reputation in the community of marine equipment and service providers.

Not only NavCom, namely our Field Technicians Steffen, Guntis, Axel, Virgilio, Romeo and Bryenth as well as our office staff Natalie, Christiana, Julia, Gerasimos and I will miss you, Herbert.

You will always be in our memories.

**Matthias Westphal**  
NavCom Manager  
Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd.

## QA CORNER

### COLUMBIA AWARDED GREEN OFFICE CERTIFICATE

Green Offices is a pilot, innovative eco-label for offices and buildings.

Green Offices is awarded to

facilities that implement and adhere to criteria related to energy and water consumption, waste management and use of environmentally friendly products of personal hygiene and detergents, the quality of food and drinks, development of green areas in open spaces and environmental education.

Following an office audit on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July 2014, CSM Cyprus was awarded with the 'Green Office' Certificate. The "Green Office" certificate was awarded



to CSM Cyprus at a ceremony in Nicosia, in the presence of The Commissioner for the Environment

Mrs. Ioanna Panayiotou. The certificate has a one year validity period and it will be renewed after a successful office audit. CSM Cyprus supports this initiative and has developed several targets, which are in line with the ISO 14001 certificate guidelines. We would like to remind everyone that it is our duty to safeguard our environment and do whatever it takes to improve our habits towards this direction.

**Charis Asimenos**

Environmental Officer

Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. (Cyprus)





# CAPE BACTON IN SEARCH & RESCUE OPERATION

On the 18th of September 2014 the Cape Bacton received a call from the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Rome to proceed for an on scene investigation and possible rescue operation. The call was received at 0700lt (05:00 GMT) .

Upon receipt of the call, the Master deviated to the specified position and informed the company Security Officer and the DPA (designated person ashore). All the crew on board prepared themselves as per procedures for the recovery of persons from the water. All life saving appliances, personal protective equipment, recovery and lifting equipment were made ready.

At around 12:20 LT a small boat was detected with 150-200 Syrian migrants onboard. The MRCC officer advised the Master to drift around the boat as a safety precaution at the scene until the Italian Warship "LIBRA" arrived.

The vessel with migrants was taken alongside, one man fell overboard and was successfully recovered from the water by throwing a lifebuoy.

While waiting for the "LIBRA" to arrive our crew provided the migrants with water and food.

A few hours later the warship arrived and sent a small speed boat to pick up the Syrian migrants. All persons were successfully and safely evacuated from their 20 meter boat and taken on board the Italian vessel. The whole operation lasted until around 21:00 LT - afterwards the Cape Bacton continued her voyage.

A warm thank you to Captain Devadze and his crew for their professional response, good seamanship and humanitarian rescue.

**Rolf Slothouwer**  
Fleet Safety Officer  
Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. (Cyprus)





# CSM DONATES FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

In April 2014 the staff Motivation Team of CSM Cyprus came up with the idea to contribute to a local charity, 'The Social Grocery of the Municipality of Limassol'. The beneficiaries of this charity can receive at regular intervals free foodstuffs (i.e flour, cooking oil, pasta, biscuits, canned foods, baby food and nappies as well as various household items).

Our colleagues contributed grocery items based on the charity's requirements and managed to collect products worth approximately €2,500.

Our company matched that amount hence the total amount contributed was €5,000.

Some members of the Motivation Team, together with directors Mr. Vakis and Mr. Hadjipetrou delivered the goods in the presence of the Mayor of Limassol Mr. Andreas Christou. The Mayor thanked and congratulated Columbia for their contribution.

A special thanks to our CSM Motivation Team for organizing this initiative.

**Editorial Team**



# YOLANDA HELP PROJECT IN THE PHILIPPINES

At Luneta Elementary School in Leyte, Philippines two buildings had their roof and ceiling completely blown away by Typhoon Yolanda. This was their gloomy school environment until NSB and CSM came to help with repairing the roof.

Prior to the reconstruction, classes were held at the roofless building, putting the students and teachers alike at risk of sickness, not to mention a condition not conducive to learning.

On 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014, Mr. Dieter Duschner and Captain Gilbert Garcia attended the simple luncheon classroom blessing on a hot afternoon attended by government officials, students, teachers



and parents.

The handover ceremony and ribbon cutting were symbolic and gave new hope to the countless children eagerly awaiting to utilize their newly renovated classrooms.

Luneta is a barangay of the Municipality of La Paz in the province of Leyte in





Eastern Visayas which is part of the Visayas Group of Islands. It has a population of about 19,133 as of the end of 2010 and can be reached by land about 60 kilometers away from Tacloban City. There is a saying, 'the best use of life is to invest in



something that will outlast a life time'. Words to live by and will eternally be remembered at Luneta Elementary School, La Paz Leyte.

**Captain Gilbert G Garcia**  
**General Manager**  
Senator Crewing (Manila)





# ALS ICE BUCKET CHALLENGE

## POURS OVER COLUMBIA WORLDWIDE

It was not an ordinary Tuesday. On August 26<sup>th</sup> 2014, an email popped up on the screen at 12:07pm of all CSM Cyprus staff announcing that our company had accepted the Ice Bucket Challenge from Imperio Properties, Limassol.

The purpose was to raise awareness for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, by donating to the ALS Association and responding to the challenge within 24 hours.

ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects the nerve cells in the brain and in the spinal cord.

When the motor neurons die, the ability of the brain to initiate and control muscle movement is lost. With voluntary muscle action progressively affected, patients in the later stages of the disease may become totally paralysed.

All staff were welcome to participate in the main garden on this hot sunny day. An enthusiastic crowd returned after lunch wearing their Columbia t-shirts, and equipped with rubber ducks and towels. The rest turned up to cheer on and enjoy the spectacle of seeing our top management receive an ice cold drenching for a good cause.



CSM Cyprus





CSM Germany

Once the challenge was completed, our spokesman Mr. Phivos Vakis nominated the following offices: CSM Germany, CSM Singapore, AAL Singapore and TCM Athens. These fine companies responded to the challenge in a timely and creative way. Our German colleagues noted on camera that a bucket of cold water was part of their Northern routine for waking up in the morning.



TCM Athens

In Singapore, an excited Dutchman, Ben Huizenga jumped into the warm swimming pool and in Greece it was quite a fiesta! All pictured offices made a donation to the ALS Association for taking part in the challenge. Our seafarers can enjoy the clips on the latest VSS CD which was sent to our fleet.

**Editorial Team**



CSM Singapore and AAL Singapore

## LOCAL STUDENTS VISIT COLUMBIA CYPRUS

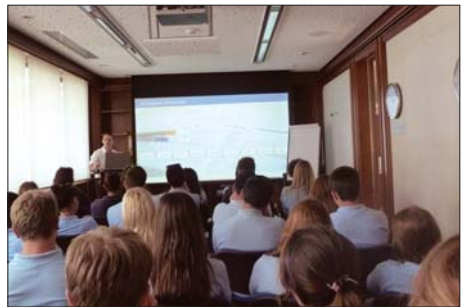
On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, a group of 35 Business Studies students from Logos School of English Education, Limassol, were given a tour of Columbia Cyprus and received a presentation by our Marketing Director Mr. Demetris Chrysostomou.

The students were studying for their IGCSE's business class. Their teacher Ms. Natalie Oghassabian advised, "Every year I try and take my students to visit a company in Limassol for them

to see what is involved in operating a business. Usually we go to a business that concentrates on the local market, but this time at Columbia it was a great opportunity for my students to see a global business operation".

Some of the Logos students were encouraged to further research shipping as a possible route to take for their higher education studies.

**Editorial Team**



## EUROPA 2 CALLS LIMASSOL

On 25<sup>th</sup> October 2014 a group of 12 CSM employees, from different departments, visited the passenger vessel "Europa 2" which anchored at Limassol port for a day.

We arrived early in the morning and from the start, we were impressed by the fact that we were visiting a five-star floating hotel.

The hostess greeted us and gave us a two-hour tour of the 10 deck premises. There was not enough time to visit the entire ship, but we managed to visit the reception area, theatre, gallery, library, pool area, fitness, golf, spa, cookery school, cinema, kids club and some of the cabins. We were particularly impressed by the luxury and finesse of the cruise ship.

After the tour, we met with Captain Wolter who explained to us the route of the ship and gave us a tour of the bridge area. Mr. Fry presented the Captain with a copy of the "Lemesos" photography book, as a gift, as there was not enough time for the Captain to visit Limassol due to the vessel's short stay in port.

Amongst the various restaurants on board, ranging from Mediterranean, Asian, French to Fusion cuisine, the Captain treated us to lunch at the 'Tarragon' restaurant, with a tailor made menu made specifically for our visit. Suffice to say the food was incredible!

We would like to thank Hapag Lloyd for the invitation. Special thanks to the Captain and his crew for their hospitality.

We wish them safe trips.

**Georgina Charalambous**  
Insurance Officer  
Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd (Cyprus).





### ANDREAS HADJIPETROU, MANAGING DIRECTOR - CSM CYPRUS

#### MY BACKGROUND

I was born in Famagusta, Cyprus just before the Turkish invasion. I grew up in Limassol and after finishing school I carried out my military service as an Officer. I then studied Economics at University College London (UCL).

I joined Columbia in 1996 as an Accountant, working as an Accounts Supervisor and later took on the role of Commercial Manager prior to moving to Hamburg in 2006 as a Financial Director. Parallel to working I obtained an MBA in Quality Management Systems from Leicester University. In 2012 I returned to Cyprus and was promoted to Deputy Managing Director. As from the 1st of January 2014 I was appointed as Managing Director of Columbia Cyprus.



#### 1. Please share a highlight from your Columbia career so far.

Well, the most memorable experience is when Mr. Schoeller asked me to move to Hamburg entrusting me with the responsibility of Financial Director of Columbia Shipmanagement Deutschland. I felt honoured at his request and was pleasantly surprised with the proposal. My knowledge of the German language and German tax system were at the time miniscule. Therefore I felt that the most important reason for moving to Hamburg was the trust placed in me, that while working together with our Hamburg team, I would be able to help the company expand.

#### 2. What does a typical week look like for you?

We are a service organization and the client is the King. Being located in Cyprus we need to travel abroad in order to meet with our new and existing clients. For this reason a lot of time is spent travelling. A typical day in the office would include 4-5 internal and external meetings, video conferences and close email communication with clients and colleagues from around the world.

#### 3. How would you describe your leadership style?

I am very task oriented and like to give full attention to the individual needs and ideas of our colleagues. Our colleagues on board and at the office are the reason



for our success. I strongly believe in teamwork and typically ask for other people's opinions before reaching a final decision. Likewise, I try to keep people informed about the reasons behind any decision.

#### **4. What are the benefits of working together with a joint Managing Director?**

It's not a new experience for me working with another Managing Director. During my time in Hamburg I was working closely with Carsten Sommerhage MD of CSM Germany and during this time we managed to not only develop a mutual respect but also a strong friendship. This further helped the company grow and improve. The appointment of Captain Maurice Baker has meant that we can complement each other's experiences and better support our clients. I'm also very pleased with the appointment of Duncan McLennan as Technical Director, as together we are committed to bringing the company forward in the future.

#### **5. What did you learn from your time working at our Hamburg office as Financial Director?**

Living in a different country is always challenging especially if you have young children. Learning about the culture, the ways of living and tackling the various difficulties you come across helps you become stronger and wiser. What I would however like to emphasize is that after being in Germany for 6 years, our Hamburg office is very close to my heart. I do not see it in any way different than Cyprus. I do have very close friends in the Hamburg office and this is perhaps one of my biggest gains from my time there.

#### **6. As Columbia enters the second year of the ECP probation, which vital points should we be focusing on?**

The first year of probation helped us improve our management system and our procedures. Our crew has been extensively trained and we have set up safety nets. The safety nets have been placed in order to ensure that possible offenders are discouraged and that any arising issues are dealt with internally; we strive to ensure that no violation will ever occur again. In the second year we will continue working hard to further improve the management system. We will also continue to focus on ensuring that all our colleagues on board and in the office promote the environmental culture in such a way that Columbia becomes second to none.

#### **7. How would you spend an ideal weekend?**

My ideal weekend would include valuable family time, especially with my 12 year old daughter. She is still at an age that she wants to be with Daddy so I'm taking

advantage of every valuable minute I get to spend time with her. I would also meet with my friends, go to restaurants and enjoy good food and company. Like most Cypriots I like watching football. During the summertime we spend time on the beach and enjoying watersports.

### 8. Message for our Columbia family before we sail into the New Year?

All readers are aware that times have not been easy in shipping for at least 5 years. However, Columbia continues to gain clients thanks to our professionalism and service mentality. Based on the foundations of our Chairman we always strive for improvement and we will concentrate further on our clients and the services provided to them. All colleagues are requested to continue contributing by working hard and sharing the same values of respect, loyalty, passion, competence and accountability. I would like to wish everybody a Healthy, Happy and Enjoyable Festive Season with good friends, family and colleagues if on board.

## DUNCAN MCLENNAN, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR - CSM CYPRUS

### MY BACKGROUND



Being born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1958 my earliest memories are of ships and shipyards on the River Clyde. Also I suppose that being the son of a Chief Engineer (later Ship Repair Manager, Technical Superintendent and Lloyd's Register Surveyor) may have been a contributory factor as well. Subsequently, when it came time to decide which career direction to take, the "wanderlust" which is latent in the genes of most Scots kicked in and the rest, as they say, is history.

### 1. In your view, which areas of technical management are most affected by the current shipping climate?

We are living in troubled economic times today. Freight rates are experiencing continual downward pressure whilst a raft of new legislation drives cost upwards and finding the balance between satisfying the ever changing requirements and doing so in a cost effective manner is one of the most challenging aspects today.

### DUNCAN MCLENNAN, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR - CSM CYPRUS

#### 2. Ship visits are an important part of technical management. Any particular topics that would benefit from face to face discussion between crew and TSI's when onboard?

It might seem a bit obvious but "everything" benefits from face to face discussion between Crew and Technical Superintendent. The Technical Superintendents and all other office staff support, in some form or other, support the vessels and crews who operate them. In order to achieve this successfully, open and honest communication between ship and shore is essential.

One particular topic which really MUST be discussed "face to face" is our focus area of Company Values. Whilst we can communicate in various media the strongest possible means of conveying Company Values, it is from direct interaction with crew on board who must see that we not only talk about these Company Values but also that we are fully committed to them in our day to day business as well.

#### 3. How do you stay knowledgeable about the shipping industry?

In today's electronic age there are vast amounts of information available but the key is that it does not fall into one's lap, it must be actively sought out. Therefore it is necessary to take part in as many forums as possible such as seminars, webinars and conferences together with maintaining a healthy dialogue with an active network in the industry. Reading is all very well but without healthy and vigorous debate to evaluate information the knowledge gained can be miniscule in comparison to the effort made.

#### 4. Why do you think shipping is unique in comparison to other transport industries?

There are very few industries (possibly with the exception of aviation) where high value cargo is placed in the hands of a few persons to convey halfway across the world. As an example a VLCC carrying crude from the Arabian Gulf to China will load approximately 2.5 million barrels of oil at \$82 per barrel. This gives a cargo value in excess of \$200,000,000 which a crew of around 24 persons will then be expected to convey to China safely and on time.

During this voyage they will encounter challenges and issues ranging from mechanical failure of machinery, typhoons etc. all the way through to possible pirate attack and they will be expected to deal with all these challenges competently and professionally. The non-seafarer would be forgiven for thinking that after safely delivering their cargo ashore the ship staff congratulate each other on a job well done and head home to celebrate but they would of course be wrong. The seafarer then heads off back to sea to repeat the whole endeavor again.... and again until his contract is over and he then heads home for a well-earned rest.

Without the ships and the dedication of those who sail in them, carrying out their task of delivering raw and finished goods around the world safely and efficiently it is fair to say that the engine which drives global industry and development would grind to a halt. What other industry can say the same.

### 5. As a Scotsman, how would you describe haggis to a novice?

Heaven on a plate!

### 6. Which 3 nautical book classics would you recommend to Compass readers?

The Tales of Para Handy – Neil Munro

The Coral Island – Daniel Defoe

No Cure No Pay – William (Bill) Worrell

## MARVIN HOLLJE, QSHE OFFICER / D-CSO - CSM GERMANY

### MY BACKGROUND

I was born in Aurich, Germany in 1989 and I grew up in the small town Dörpen, Germany which is located in the west northern part of Germany, between the countryside and the famous cruise vessel shipyard "Meyer-Werft".

At the age of 16 I started my career in shipping with my professional education in ship mechanics. I still remember it as if it were yesterday – I had to travel around





### MARVIN HOLLJE, QSHE OFFICER / D-CSO - CSM GERMANY

half the globe to San Antonio, Chile where I signed-on on board a 2000 TEU container vessel – amazing! Afterwards I received my nautical license at the Maritime University in Leer, Germany and I was ready to go back to sea. However, I was given the opportunity to work in the head office. During this time I conducted internal audits on board vessels and executed various projects.

To improve my professional knowledge and see how other shipping companies are working, I decided to change company and it was then I found a well-structured, quality-standard setting and global company – CSM. In my private life I enjoy different kinds of sports, spending my time with any kind of vehicle and meeting with friends.

#### 1. What made you decide to pursue a career in shipping?

The fascination of shipping caught me very early and as a young boy I was already interested in every kind of vehicle sailing on the water. So I decided to complete my professional education as a ship mechanic and afterwards I studied successfully for the nautical license. Over the years I was sailing on different kind of Dry-Cargo vessels and met so many interesting and fantastic people from all over the globe. I have no regrets about this decision.

#### 2. What do you enjoy most about your job?

One thing I really enjoy is the communication with lots of interesting people of different nationalities, cultures and backgrounds. The other thing I enjoy about my job is the daily challenges as nearly no case is like the other and therefore it never becomes boring. Furthermore, the persons around me keep me in a good mood too.

#### 3. Describe what teamwork means to you?

There are some wise words I like to quote, "Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships." Teamwork means for me that everybody has to do his / her own tasks which ultimately lead to one final goal together - the success of Columbia. This requires good communication between all of us.

### MARVIN HOLLJE, QSHE OFFICER / D-CSO - CSM GERMANY

#### 4. How do you keep updated with international safety regulations?

Continuously reading and reading! We are working close together with the Flag authorities and the class societies which provide us with all the relevant updates of safety regulations. Additionally I am a member of ISM, ISPS & MLC working group by the DNV GL where new regulations will be discussed with the representatives of the shipping companies.

#### 5. In your opinion, how can we improve our communication from shore to ship?

Communication means the exchange of information – and this should be done on both sides. For me it's important that both sides are on the same level of relevant information to allow a smooth cooperation. I enjoy every opportunity such as the NSB Training, Meetings and Briefings to meet some of our seafarers. In my opinion it creates a better working atmosphere to know each other personally instead of communicating only by e-mail.

#### 6. If you had to choose, would you rather be a speed boat racer or the Captain of a sailing yacht?

This question is very simple for me – it would be the speed boat racer! I have a passion for all very fast vehicles on the water. On sunny summer days, which are really rare here in Germany, I enjoy spending my weekend on the speed boat or the Jet ski as I love to feel the speed on the water.

#### 7. We have some enthusiastic golf players in Columbia. Are there any similarities between golf and shipping?

In my opinion there is one important similarity between golf and shipping at the moment. On the Green you are scoring with the minimum amount of hits. As the shipping industry is still facing the problems of the financial crisis, we are forced to provide the maximum benefits for all our customers with the minimum amount of resources. This requires a huge knowledge and permanent concentration from all of us – whether on board our good vessels or in the offices around the world.

### MARIO STIPANICIC, GENERAL MANAGER - CSM RIJEKA OFFICE

#### MY BACKGROUND

I was born in Rijeka, which was at that time the largest port on the east coast of the Adriatic sea. The tradition of seafaring has existed for a very long time in our region, and especially within our family. On the painting behind me is a ship named "Ariete" from 1878 which was under command of my great-great-grand father. Thanks to my late father, who was a Captain as well, there was no doubt for me as a young fellow in the choice of career to aim for. Most likely, the time I spent with him on board, was a crucial factor in choosing my profession. After cadetship in a national owned company Jugolinija, which was the biggest company at that time in ex Yugoslavia, I enrolled at the Maritime Faculty in Rijeka where I graduated in 1995. Shortly after, I joined a Danish company Armada Shipping as a young Officer where I spent another 5 years. As soon as the CSM agent in Rijeka, Captain Rogic Ivica at that time, invited me to join as a Chief Officer onboard a very large car carrier MV DResden, I had no doubt that this would be a huge step forward for me. After three contracts on car carriers, I was transferred to the container fleet where I was promoted to Master. Finally, in the second half of 2004, during my last contract on board, I was offered by top management to take over managing our CSM Rijeka office, which I accepted with great pleasure. Even though all my ancestors spent the majority of their lives at sea, I decided to be the first one to leave active seafaring at an early professional age which would allow me to spend more time with my new born baby girl. She is eleven today at this time of writing...oh my gosh, time flies!



#### 1. What were your first impressions of Columbia when you joined the company?

When I first learned of Columbia, I was impressed by how attractive it was among seafarers - becoming a member of the CSM seafaring pool was prestigious. As soon as I joined my first vessel, I understood what it is all about. The first impression was completely according to expectations. Columbia was exactly the company with perspective I had been looking for, where I could accomplish all my career expectations.

#### 2. How do you keep connected to the Columbia family?

Above all, we maintain a professional contact through regular meetings at CSM offices worldwide. However, considering that through many years we have developed and strengthened friendships among colleagues, it is also common to regularly visit each other with families at informal gatherings throughout the year. It naturally contributes to better business cooperation as well, but we really enjoy having fun together with our families during vacations.

### MARIO STIPANICIC, GENERAL MANAGER - CSM RIJEKA OFFICE

#### 3. What type of support can seafarers expect from CSM Rijeka?

Since we have known the majority of seafarers for many years, we are aware of various aspects of their lives. Furthermore, very often sensitive personal issues come under our concern giving us a strong obligation in dealing with them. Our seafarers know that for whatever reason they are encouraged to approach us at any time.

#### 4. How can we as a company better support our seafarers?

After years of experience, I came to the conclusion that a personal approach is the most important aspect. To have a satisfied and most of all loyal seafarer, we provide them with a safe working environment, enabling their regular contact with families at home, being at their disposal at all the times, but most of all knowing in detail their personalities which would allow us to be at their service just as they need. That implies knowledge of seemingly small things that are sometimes of great importance to our seafarers. In this way we hope they feel like part of our large Columbia family.

#### 5. What has been your biggest lesson learnt so far from your work life?

The magical thing about lessons in life is that you learn something new every day. Some of these lessons you learn are small, but some others, they can help you change your life forever. Since we all know that work must always be done regardless of the difficulties that may occur, the question is how to best do this? There is always a silent and graceful solution to every problem. Stop thinking about problems and start thinking about solutions.

#### 6. In your opinion, why should the next generation of youngsters consider a career in shipping?

Thanks to modern technology, we live in a global world today. This is especially true for young people to whom the career in shipping gives the chance to experience it in real life. Dynamic occupations related to shipping provide the opportunity to explore the world and different cultures. The ancient Latin proverb says: "Navigare necesse est vivere non est necesse" (to sail is necessary; to live is not necessary) - it could not be more true for the present day. Considering this, the next generation of seafarers have the privilege to perform this occupation with the best safety conditions ever. Together with other favorable conditions, it still remains a very tempting career choice in today's changing world.

#### 7. A wish for our readers as we enter the New Year?

Thank you for the opportunity to wish you all a very healthy, wise and prosperous New Year 2015, to all members of our Columbia family.



## CSM BOWLING TOURNAMENT STRIKES AGAIN!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bowling tournament was held this year on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. The participation of our Columbia Cyprus staff was a good chance to have fun and relax from the pressures of shipping. The bowling tournament is part of our 'get together' staff events which Columbia Cyprus established.

The tournament took place at the Space Bowling Center in Limassol in a colourful atmosphere: good music, colourful bowling shoes and shiny bowls. As per last year, our teams were well prepared and t-shirts with the name of the teams were printed. Imagination and a fun loving attitude produced team names such

as The Invincibles, Manic Marines and The Bowling Stones! All the contestants bowled with passion and determination. The winning team, aptly named The Invincibles, belonged to the Crewing dept. namely: Christis Marcoullis, Andreas Andreou, Helen Socratous, Sophia Christophorou, Marios Koudounas and Anna Ruszczynska. Well done!

The highest scorer of the tournament was Constantinos Agathocleous (188 points), in 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Marios Nicolaou (174 points) and in 3<sup>rd</sup> place was Marios Koudounas (167 points). The top 3 teams and individuals were awarded with trophies.





We would like to thank all participants and look forward to more tournaments in the near future.

**Marios Nicolaou**

Accountant Bank & Payments  
Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. (Cyprus)

## CSM RUNS 5KM CORPORATE RACE!

On the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2014, CSM Cyprus participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Limassol Marathon 5km Corporate Race. This was the first time CSM Cyprus participated in the 5km Corporate Race. Having an overall participation of 100 staff, friends and family the race was a great success!

The Limassol Marathon is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year and has had over 7000 participants so far. It's a flat course which follows the Mediterranean coastline from the city centre, along the beachfront, to the ruins of the ancient city of Amathus and back covering in total 42.195 kilometres.





The 5km Corporate Race course follows the same route as the Marathon up to the 2.5 km mark where runners are redirected back towards the finish line.

108 companies from all over Cyprus with over 2000 runners joined the 5km Corporate Race and the feedback was very positive! Columbia Shipmanagement ranked 21<sup>st</sup> with an average time of 0:26:29 and a minute later Columbia Hotels & Resorts ranked in 30<sup>th</sup> with an average time of 0:27:06.



The team race was a great opportunity for an enjoyable day out in the fresh air.

Our t-shirt slogan was 'It's Your Ship! Run it Like a Pro!' which our runners wore proudly on the day. It was a fun team building event which we look forward to attending next year.



**Marina Christofi**  
Human Resources Officer  
Columbia Shipmanagement (Cyprus) Ltd.





## A FUN RUN FOR ALL!

The hot and sunny weather did not stop Team Senator from supporting the 8th Filipino Association for Mariners' Employment, Inc. (FAME) fun run held last June 22, 2014 at Roxas Boulevard Manila together with maritime students from various maritime schools, seafarers and their families and all the other stakeholders in the maritime industry in commemoration of the International Seafarers Day on June 25 a few days after.

Despite a late gun start at 07:00h runners still had lots of fun and proved once again that running under the sun is more fun in the Philippines.

More than a thousand runners from their respective categories – 10K, 5K, and 3K attended. Team Senator runners donned their custom made blue-white singlet with pride as they dashed happily to the finish line. We did not win any podium medals that day, but true happiness came from knowing that we are now better runners than we were the day before.



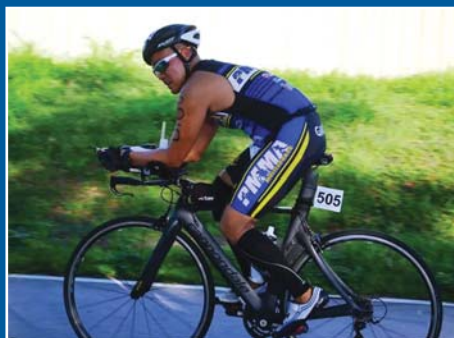


## The making of an IronMan

"I was not born to run..." This was my first thought when I woke up one rainy day back in Singapore in 2010. I was 30 pounds overweight with bad cholesterol levels twice the healthy limit and BMI 31. I promised my wife I would honor my New Year's resolution and I was not about to disappoint her. With heavy legs, I jogged my first 500 meters in decades, barely reaching back home to suit up and get ready for work.

Painstakingly, the days and months that came afterwards were the same, even while on board during ship visits, when I would make time for running, pedaling on a stationary bike or doing circuit body weight training. The need to run and exercise daily didn't come by choice but of necessity to get back into shape.

The love and hate relationship with running took a different turn when I returned to the Philippines mid-2012 from Singapore. I was surprised to find out that there are a lot of kindred spirits in mid-life crisis looking for the inner "Adonis" within. I was hooked. Within months, I ran multiple 10ks and six 21ks, before my first 42k last August 2013 at the 37<sup>th</sup>





I'd like to thank my wife for her support  
by tolerating my crazy schedule.  
You are my True North... My light house...

MILO Marathon (Manila eliminations)  
finishing it in slightly over 5 hours.

Running made me realize that I could  
do so much more! Two months after  
and with blind faith, I signed up for  
Cobra IronMan 70.3 Cebu without  
knowing how to swim or how to  
ride a bike - let alone how to race  
with one... On the same day of  
registration I hired a coach to teach  
me, who had experience with  
newcomers to the field.

I participated in a mini-aquathlon and  
a mini-duathlon before finishing my  
first sprint triathlon at UPLB Los Banos  
back in December 2013 – two months  
after I got into a serious 5-day a week  
swim-bike-run training schedule.

I have since completed the Cobra  
IronMan Cebu challenge, which was a  
real experience. Daddy duties by early  
morning... Office work by day... Triathlon  
daily grind by night... Day in.. Day out...  
I was very sick 2 days before the race –  
I prayed to God for divine providence.  
I lost my heart rate monitor during  
the swim phase – I relied on my strong  
heart which held on. I received a bike  
drafting penalty and I lost time – I  
panicked but compensated with a  
stronger hunger to catch up. I had  
cramps on both legs on the last  
2 Km of the half marathon – I limped...  
I hopped.. and ran with all I had left  
towards the finish line.

At the end, I roared with happiness  
knowing that distance and age  
were just numbers. The human spirit  
was immeasurable and, ultimately  
those who finished were the ones  
who truly believed that they could.  
My completed time was 6 hours and 38  
minutes.

People ask me why I do what I do  
on top of my very busy schedule.  
Triathlons are not about finding my  
limits. It is about finding out what  
lies just beyond them. I have learned  
to train my mind to compartmentalize,  
so when the road is long, and painful  
I tell myself, "This is my pace – I will  
finish".

**Captain Gilbert C. Garcia**  
General Manager  
Senator Crewing (Manila)

## DID YOU KNOW?

### THE HISTORY OF A MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

If you were asked to guess how long a glass bottle would last at sea what would your answer be? Considering the rate of disintegration, rough waters, extreme climate conditions, the underlying sharp coral reefs, and huge over-looking boulders on the shores, would your guess be: 10 years, 100 years or over 1000 years?

Earlier in 2014, in spring, a German fisherman named Konrad Fischer caught in his net a small treasure. The unsuspecting vessel Maria I's net pulled out of the Baltic Sea an otherwise normal item of marine garbage.



His fellow mate however spotted that the brown beer bottle held in its belly an otherwise 'unusual' artifact. To the skippers' surprise they had just fished out a...101-year-old message.

Inside the bottle was a Danish postcard with 2 German stamps on it - the message asked the finder to send it on to the mentioned address in Berlin. The message was written by a German bakers' son named Richard Platz and cast to sea in 1913! The museum that authenticated the find tracked the postcard back to the 62-year -old granddaughter of 'young' Richard. The bottled message was at sea for approximately 36,890 days! Definitely not the best means of communication.

Bottles with enclosed messages being sent out to their unknown destinations have been reported over a long period of time and for various reasons.

The earliest known sender is the Greek philosopher Theophrastus who, around 310 B.C., threw sealed bottles into the Mediterranean aiming to prove that the inland body of water was formed by the inflow of the Atlantic.

In the 16th century, the English navy used bottled messages to send ashore information about enemy positions. Queen Elizabeth I even created an official position of "Uncorker of Ocean Bottles"

and anyone else opening the bottles could face the death penalty.

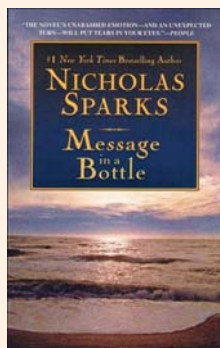
In the mid 1700's, Ben Franklin used message-carrying bottles to compile a basic knowledge of the East Coast currents. In fact, so-called 'drift bottles' are still employed as a means of charting ocean currents.

In 1914 and 2 days before his death Pvt. Thomas Hughes, a British World War I soldier threw a bottled letter to his wife into the English Channel. The ginger ale bottle was recovered in 1999 in the River Thames by a fisherman and returned to his daughter who was at that time 86 years old. His daughter was 1 year old when he passed in the line of duty.

In 1916, the crew of a wrecked WW1 Zeppelin bomber sent their SOS and final words as messages in bottles, which were found on a beach in Sweden six months later.

The Ocean Conservancy, a nonprofit environmental advocacy, after various studies back in 2007 reported that a bottle that entered the ocean in 1986 will decompose in year 1,001,986! So, while having an alluring appeal this practice is no longer encouraged as our environmental conscience has since evolved.

The concept of sending a message in a bottle has also been widely used in poetry, literature, music and film.



Jules Vern in his work *The Mysterious Island* uses the bottle as a means of salvation for a group of men who are stranded on a strange phantom island. Edgar Allan

Poe wrote in 1833 a short story called, *MS Message in a Bottle*. The plot follows a traveler at sea who finds himself in a series of distressing circumstances. As he nears his own demise, he writes a manuscript telling of his adventures which he then casts into the engulfing sea.

The American author Nicholas Sparks took a more romantic approach to the concept with his love story *Message in a Bottle*. In his novel, a widower sends out a love note to his late wife. The message is picked up, not long after, by the woman who will prove to win his heart over. Music is another creative outlet where the singer Sting released his hit song 'Message in a Bottle' with the lyrics including: "I'll send an SOS to the world, I hope that someone gets my message in a bottle".

In popular culture 'a message in a bottle' is our romantic way to call out to the vast world, to which we fulfill our need to be heard, loved and salvaged.

**Maria Theodosiou**  
Purchaser  
Columbia Shipmanagement



## LIFE ONBOARD

### GREETINGS TO THE CREW!



Greetings to our Compass readers onboard Nordic Harrier.

Thank you to the crew of Nordic Harrier for sending in their group photo.  
If you have a story or photo to share from life onboard, please send to:  
[compass@csmcy.com](mailto:compass@csmcy.com)

## EDITORIAL TEAM NEWS

We would like to advise our readers that Mr. Kyriakos Panayides has left our Editorial Team after 17 years of writing our Shipping Industry news. We would like to say a big thank you to Kyriakos for his dedication to Compass.



We are pleased to welcome our new editorial team member Mrs. Maria Theodosiou who has a background in creative writing and photography.

Good luck Maria!



## CSM PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION No.9 - RESULTS

This is our ninth year holding the Photographic Competition. It has been a pleasure receiving your entries. We have decided to amend our submission guidelines to include photo entries by spouses and children of CSM

employees due to a number of unusual photos received.

We would like to announce that the below persons were chosen as winners of their category by our Chairman Mr. Heinrich Schoeller:

### CATEGORY 1 – Life Onboard

**Winner:**

**Miss Lisa Groeger, daughter of  
Juli and Olaf Groeger (Columbia)**



**Runner Up:**

**Vadym Borysenko – 2nd Engineer**



### CATEGORY 2 - The Magnificent Ocean

**Winner:**

**Captain Afanaskin**



**Runner Up:**

**Mrs. Galina, wife of  
Alexander Zlobin, 2nd Engineer,  
(pictured in the air)**



### CATEGORY 3 - Crew at Work

**Winner:**  
**Ronny Karn, 2nd Officer**



The above winners will receive a high end digital camera with runners up each winning a quality book on photography – congratulations!

Thank you to all who entered. The remaining photos may be used in

**Runner Up:**  
**Captain Mashkevych, CSM Ukraine**



future Compass issues, company brochures and CSM websites. Details of the next competition will be announced in our next issue. However, feel free to start taking photos from now!

**Editorial Team**

#### **HELPING OTHERS THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHY**

Compass magazine continues to forward winning Compass photos to The Foundation for Photo/Art in Hospitals, for use in their scheme. The donated images will then be framed and sent to an international hospital upon request.

The Foundation for Photo/Art in Hospitals is a non-profit publicly supported organization dedicated to placing colorful, soothing photographs of nature in hospitals to give comfort and hope to patients and their families, visitors, and caregivers. The Foundation was established in the USA in 2002. To date, more than 2000 photos have been placed in over 100 healthcare facilities on 5 continents.

Their vision is to create a shift in the way people view hospitals, from cold and sterile to warm and welcoming.

For more information please visit: [www.HealingPhotoArt.org](http://www.HealingPhotoArt.org)

## HOBBIES ONSHORE SHIPPING OFF-ROAD RALLY

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2014, 16 off-road cars made their way up to the village of Agros, Cyprus to take part in the 20<sup>th</sup> Shipping Off-Road Rally.

The Off-Road Rally was initiated by a number of employees who loved off-road adventures and friendly rivalry between their companies. Through the years several companies have become standard sponsors of the rally including Columbia Shipmanagement.

Early in the morning our team with car number 9 was ready and equipped with a spade, working gloves, robes, eggs, first aid kit etc to take on the challenge. With only the handbook given to us with directions, the compass and the car's KMs, we had to find our way through the hills of Agros. While the co-pilot had to provide correct instructions, team members in the back had to answer tricky questions and take



L-R Lynn Lichtenberg (6 month Trainee QSHE-Marine Department), Merle Mestern, Julia Stylianou and Marinos Theodosiou (Matheo Photography)



part in fun and exciting challenges.

Unfortunately the weather wasn't on our side, turning into pouring heavy rain, fog, slippery roads and we found ourselves struggling to push our Jimny up the hill! Soaked in water we managed to reach

the Rodon Hotel & Resort, where a delicious dinner and a great after party were held.

To our surprise, this year's victory was ours!

**Julia Stylianou**

Management Systems Assistant

**Merle Mestern**

Management Systems Assistant

Columbia Shipmanagement Ltd. (Cyprus)



# HOBBIES ONSHORE

## ASTRONOMY BY OUR CSM FLEET MANAGER

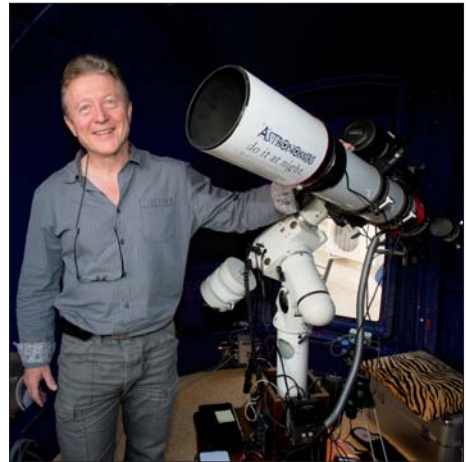
### Private rooftop observatory

CSM Fleet Manager Steffen Neubert shoots the vastness of space.

Every night, when it turns dark, the vastness of space opens up for Steffen Neubert.

When the lights disappear, the mysterious world of space is revealed for a couple of hours. Being addicted to the spectacle in the faraway space, mysterious surfaces of neighbouring planets, fog and the sudden appearance of unknown asteroids, Steffen Neubert installed a private astronomical observatory on his rooftop.

He shoots the spectacular appearances and combines them to literally extraterrestrial photographs. The observatory with a 3 meter diameter's sphere was installed on his house in Trachoni, Cyprus last summer. "I had a telescope with a tripod before, but it always had to be built up and taken down, storing it in a box afterwards. Now, I simply press a button on my computer in order to open the sphere and adjust the telescope."



For his astrophotography, he installed cameras on his telescope which create the most incredible views after a 30-minute exposure time. "These colours are basically impossible to see for the human eye. Only the camera makes it possible to filter the colours out of the visible spectrum." The results are an almost psychedelic way of art - or a window to another, hidden side of the world.

Ever since Steffen Neubert was a child, he was interested in astronomy. Having seen Saturn through the telescope live, he could never forget this spectacle. The right scenery to look into the stars came up when he

went to sea the first time at the age of 16.

He sailed as a Chief Engineer on Passenger vessels for the last 8 years of his seagoing career. Together with his wife, he lives in Cyprus since 2001 and is working for Columbia Shipmanagement Cyprus in the Technical department. Flying to an inspection in any port in the world, Steffen always orients himself by the stars. Books and professional journals about astronomy and astrophysics can be found everywhere in his house. He passionately explains his knowledge and hobby to others in a non-technical way.



"My dream is to install an astronomical observatory in the Troodos mountains of Cyprus in order to get young people enthusiastic and inspired about the sky. You cannot sail through space with a speed of 40 kilometres per second without knowing what is happening around you."

Steffen Neubert publishes his photographs on YouTube and Flickr - search for his nickname "Halloumi2012" and you'll be fascinated.

### **Mrs. Christiane Sternberg**

Translated from on-line magazine Zypern Rundschau  
Images: © CIPS/Marcos Gittis

Translation by CSM Trainee Daria Rzepka



## COLUMBIA BEACH RESORT WINS 2 AWARDS



**COLUMBIA®**  
BEACH RESORT PISSEURI



### **Columbia Beach Resort in Cyprus voted Cyprus' Leading Resort Winner World Travel Awards 2014**

The Columbia Beach Resort, our luxury five star hotel in Pissouri Bay Cyprus, has been recognised by this year's World Travel Awards (WTA), winning Cyprus' Leading Resort. This is the fifth time our hotel has received a WTA award, previous wins include the Mediterranean's Leading Spa Resort award and Cyprus' Leading Spa Resort.

At the WTA's European Gala Ceremony on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August, the Columbia Beach Resort was awarded the distinctive travel industry trophy in front of a host of top professionals. The WTA is now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year and aims to promote excellence in the travel and tourism industry. Considered by many to be the Oscars of the travel industry, WTA's are acknowledged across the globe.

### **Columbia Beach Resort Honoured in the 2014 Tripadvisor Travelers' Choice Hotels Awards**



PISSOURI BAY, CYPRUS – 24<sup>th</sup>, January, 2014 – Columbia Beach Resort today announced that it has been named as a winner in the Top Luxury Hotels category in the 2014 Travelers' Choice® awards. In the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the awards, the world's most outstanding properties were identified in the categories of Top Hotels, Bargain, B&Bs and Inns, Family, Luxury, Romance, and Small Hotels.

Travelers' Choice award winners were determined based on the reviews and opinions of millions of TripAdvisor travelers around the globe.

"We are delighted to be recognized and awarded by Tripadvisor and our guests; whose reviews are the very reason we can add yet another award to our "people's choice" award collection. These awards, due to reviews or votes from our own dear guests, are especially important and valuable to us," said Anthea Vikis, Marketing Manager for the Columbia Beach Resort.



# COLUMBIA BEACH RESORT CYPRUS

## A SELECTION OF TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR GUESTS

"Stunning resort with friendly service. This resort is first class. Perfect get away from it all location. We had a stunning sea view suite and will most definitely return. Staff are very friendly and the breakfasts are wonderful, although I now think I need to shed a few pounds as they offer everything you could imagine including waffles and fresh cooked pancakes! The pool is beautiful and the spa facilities are v good, well worth a visit. I have to say this is the most beautiful resort I have stayed in.....perfect".  
**Janette Stringer, May 2014, UK.**

"I just wanted to drop you a line to say a very big thank you for our stay at the Columbia Beach Resort last week. We had such a fantastic family holiday. It was a wonderful opportunity to catch up with my family and it was made especially great staying at the Resort. It is clear the hotel is run professionally, but the relaxed air of familiarity and friendliness between staff and guests made it a real pleasure".  
**Richard Lively, April 2014, UK.**

"Thank you so much for giving us the most fantastic wedding and so many special memories. Your staff were amazing, thank you."  
**David & Claire White, 02.04.2013, UK.**

"Marvelous place where we had a wonderful time. Service was perfect with very welcoming people. We'll be happy to come back to you....."  
**Patricia Deguild 28.08.2012, France.**



# COLUMBIA OPENS A GREEK TAVERNA



Columbia Plaza is pleased to announce the opening of a new Greek taverna called 'Avli tou Vasilea', which translates into 'Courtyard of the King'.

## 'The True Taste of Greece'

Avli tou Vasilea is located in a beautiful listed old house in historic Ayiou Andreou street with a charming courtyard full of colourful flowers, scented with jasmine, basil, sage, oregano and rosemary.

This traditional taverna is full of character and taste throughout the typical dishes reminiscent of Greece and the Islands.



The wine list is made up of renowned and some up and coming producers representing the best of Cyprus and Greece. Hospitable local staff proud of their heritage will make your meal experience unforgettable.

Parties also catered for up to 40 persons.







The restaurant is located at  
239 St. Andrews Street,  
Limassol - Cyprus

**Opening times:**

Tuesday – Sunday

7:00-11:00 pm

Sunday lunch

12:30-3:00 pm

For reservations call:  
25 352121



**AVIATION NEWS**  
**ACJ SUPPORT**  
**THE EXPERTS FOR STRUCTURE AND AIRFRAME REPAIR**



The branch ACJ Support is part of ACC COLUMBIA Jet Service since August 2012. ACJ Support is located in Wegberg (approx. 28,000 residents) in the lower Rhineland in the west of Germany. The Dutch border is only 20 kms away, with a flat and green landscape. The biggest city in the region and 10 kms away from Wegberg is Moenchengladbach with its celebrated football club "VFL Borussia Moenchengladbach" and great players like Jupp Heynkes, Berti Vogts, Günther Netzer and Lothar Matthäus.

But let us return to our real topic: ACJ Support who specialize in the repair of structure and airframe. We presently have 21 employees (2 in the administration department, 4 trainees and 15 sheet metal workers). Work is performed partly in our own facility as well as on site through a mobile team.



Technicians replacing the covering during a repair of a Boeing 737





Wing repair in progress.

While other Part-145 maintenance facilities dispense licenses for special aircraft models, the authorization of ACJ Support refers to special working methods. Therefore, we are able to serve an enormous scope of aircraft models from small piston aircraft such as Cessna 172 up to business aviation jets and also huge airplanes such as Airbus A330 and Boeing 747.

Sheet metal workers use their skilled craftsmanship as many parts need to be adapted or produced. Great skill is demanded when it comes to working with aluminium sheets with a thickness of 0,020 - 0,120 inch. The work requires a high quality awareness as even the smallest fault due to improper work may cause a safety risk for the aircraft in operation. Our field of work can be divided into four major activities. First of all, we support our own



Fuselage repair of a business jet.

maintenance facilities at Cologne Bonn Airport and Hannover Airport.

Secondly, we perform repair and modifications on aircraft components e.g. Control Elements of the wing like flaps and ailerons, doors and even on complete wings or fuselage in our repair shop in Wegberg. We take care of the complete work package from transport of the components, ordering spare parts, repair including inspection and documentation. An example is the picture showing a repair of a wing (top left). Due to a hard landing, the landing gear was bent and punched through the wing.

All yellow undercoated sheet metal components have been replaced by us during the repair as well as all underlying structural elements e.g. ribs and spars. If required, we produce the jigs ensuring the geometry of the components.

Our third and biggest field of work is the performance of repair and modifications at the customer's location. Many companies in the aviation sector and maintenance facilities make use of our know-how when it comes to aircraft structure as they do not employ sheet metal workers themselves. This service may be required on the occasion of the renewal of a covering after engine damage on a Citation jet or when supporting the customer during a scheduled C- or D-check (see below left photo). Our customers can call us 24/7 with regard to unscheduled damage keeping the aircraft on ground (AOG) to repair their airplane as fast as possible. Therefore, our staff needs to be extremely flexible and team-minded as one has to rely absolutely on the team due to constantly changing jobs and requirements. Some extensive checks or repairs must be performed as shift work.

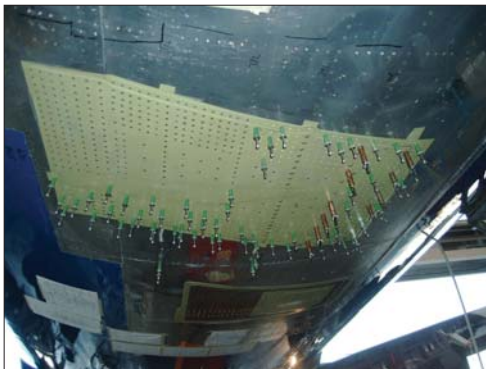
Fourthly and finally, we perform sheet metal work relating to special modifications. Over the last years, we were entrusted with the installation of special cameras for sea petrol into four different airplanes (see below right photo).

As we are always focusing on our customers' needs, we have to constantly expand our service portfolio. Therefore, we became authorized to perform aviation welding since September 2013. This year we are establishing a department for plastics work to cover this area as well, which is entering the aviation sector more and more.

We are glad to be part of the Columbia family and being able to contribute to the success of the company.

**Volker Busch**

Technical Manager ACJ Support  
ACC COLUMBIA Jet Service GmbH



AOG repair



Camera modification

## AVIATION NEWS

### SEBASTIAN KAUF - FROM TRAINEE TO SUPERVISOR

In 2013, more than 10,000 young people finished their apprenticeship in the district of the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (CIC) in Cologne. 444 of them passed the exam with distinction and were honoured for their exceptional achievement during a ceremonial act on 29 October 2013. One of them is Sebastian Kauf, who was trained as an aircraft mechanic at ACC CJS Cologne from 1 May 2011 until 30 June 2013 which is extremely short considering the usual term is 3.5 years.



Sebastian Kauf (left) and Andreas Diehl  
(Quality Manager, right)

Due to his previous studies of aeronautical engineering and his excellent grades during the apprenticeship, the CIC allowed him to shorten the traineeship.

Sebastian was immediately employed as an aircraft mechanic with us after his successful completion. He was directly appointed as supervisor due to his absolute professionalism and his strong personality and is now the responsible contact person for our trainees. We are very proud to have such a committed and well educated young employee in our team of technicians representing the company's future. Congratulations, Sebastian, and thank you for supporting us!

**Joachim Taube** Managing Director  
**Anja Berschet** Assistant to the Management  
ACC COLUMBIA Jet Service GmbH





**WELCOME  
TO THE COLUMBIA  
FAMILY!**



**Semeli**

Born 16 January 2014



Parents:  
Filio Nikiforou  
(CSM Accountant)  
and  
Theodoros Sergides

CSM Cyprus

**Dhiren Sher**

Born 30th January 2014



Parents:  
Taj Mohamed  
(Crewing Superintendent)  
and  
Corinne Tan

CSM Singapore

**Iakovos**

Born 23rd January 2014



Parents:  
Mirka Efthymiadou  
(CSM Legal Advisor)  
and  
Arto Nordikian

CSM Cyprus



Tefkros

Born 21st February 2014



Parents:  
Olympia Hadjieracleous  
(Administrative Assistant)  
and Michael Iacovides  
(Commercial Manager)

CSM Cyprus

Linda

Born 29th July 2014



Parents:  
Christoph Boekeler  
(Crew Operator)  
and  
Cathrin Boekeler

CSM Germany

Mert-Emin

Born 24th September 2014



Parents:  
Serkan Uzun  
(Accountant)  
and  
Emine Uzun

CSM Germany

Nikita

Born 13th October 2014



Parents:  
Nikolay Mussienko  
(Administrative Assistant)  
and  
Ksenja Mussienko

CSM Germany

# Welcome to the Lighthouse Corner page.

Here we feature light reading and puzzles  
for your coffee break.

If you would like to contribute to  
**Lighthouse Corner**, please contact us  
at [compass@csmcy.com](mailto:compass@csmcy.com)

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## SUDOKU

**Sudoku** is a game which has become popular internationally.

**HOW TO PLAY:** Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There's no maths involved, you solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

### MEDIUM

		5			7			
						9		2
7		1	2		9	6		
9	5			8		3		
	2			3	6			
		7			5		1	
			6				5	9
5	3			9				
			1	5		2	6	

### HARD

	1			2				
					8	3		
			4	5			1	6
1					3			
							7	2
		9					4	
6	7		5				3	
	4	2				6		
			9		7			

Answers on page 73

## DESIGN INSPIRATION — NAUTICAL CAKES



What would life be like without cake? Not very sweet.  
To celebrate this 20th birthday edition, here are some cakes to inspire you  
for your next special occasion!





## COMPASS Submission Guidelines

Established in 1994, Compass is published twice a year (Winter/Summer). We share company news with our worldwide readership, the Columbia family. We seek input for our regular sections (Life Onboard, True Travel, CSM Sports events) as well as company news. Due to increased enquiries we are including our submission guidelines. Submissions from Columbia colleagues are welcome at [compass@csmcy.com](mailto:compass@csmcy.com)

Please send your article proposals, in case a similar topic is already planned for an upcoming issue. Authors will be given full proofreading support.

A Writing Tips sheet and deadline information will be sent to you upon request.

We look forward to hearing from you.



## SUDOKU ANSWERS

2	9	5	3	6	7	1	8	4
6	4	3	5	1	8	9	7	2
7	8	1	2	4	9	6	3	5
9	5	4	7	8	1	3	2	6
1	2	8	4	3	6	5	9	7
3	6	7	9	2	5	4	1	8
4	1	2	6	7	3	8	5	9
5	3	6	8	9	2	7	4	1
8	7	9	1	5	4	2	6	3

MEDIUM PUZZLE - ANSWERS

5	1	7	3	2	6	4	9	8
4	9	6	1	7	8	3	2	5
2	8	3	4	5	9	7	1	6
1	2	4	7	8	3	5	6	9
8	3	5	6	9	4	1	7	2
7	6	9	2	1	5	8	4	3
6	7	8	5	4	2	9	3	1
9	4	2	8	3	1	6	5	7
3	5	1	9	6	7	2	8	4

HARD PUZZLE - ANSWERS



# The Editor's New Assistant!





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