

The GROUND RULES

News From the Consulting Firm of MARTIN, OTTAWAY, van HEMMEN & DOLAN, INC.

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Associate highlight

Don Lindquist is our newest associate who is based in Philadelphia, PA. He began his career with American Export Isbrandtsen Lines aboard freighters and container vessels. While employed by American Export, Don attended the last N/S "SAVANNAH" training program for nuclear reactor operators. After the "SAVANNAH" was deactivated, he served the rest of his seagoing career for Cities Service Tankers, which became known as Inter Ocean Management Corp. Don sailed as Chief Engineer on IOM's VLCC and ULCC fleet vessels.

When he came ashore in 1977, Don served as a port engineer until he attained the position of Manager of Engineering for Inter Ocean Management Corp. In 1980 he was then hired by Sun Transport as their Manager of Maintenance and Repair where he stayed for fifteen years. In his last years at Sun Transport, Don implemented the Quality Management System which allowed for ISO 9002 certification of the company.

During his years at IOM and Sun Transport, he became an active member of the ABS Committee on Special Operations and was very active in the Philadelphia section of SNAME and was also a past Section Chairman of that organization.

Don left Sun Transport in 1995 and formed Link Marine Services, LLC which specialized in vessel M & R, damage claims, surveys, shipyard overhaul management and ISM/ISO consulting. Don joined Martin, Ottaway, van Hemmen & Dolan, Inc. as an associate in 1996 and looks forward to a long and close relationship and to gaining experience in the underwriting and surveying areas of the business.

Field Survey reports

This is part one in a series dealing with that important document known as a "Field Survey Report." The field survey report, as far as we can trace back in history, is an American invention. It is a document that

is quite often looked at by many people in the maritime industry with mixed emotions. The reasons for this are many and will be discussed in future articles.

The field survey report is written in a "Found" and "Recommended" format with the page divided vertically in half. The preamble is usually found at the top which states that a number of *Professional* people have looked at the same damage at the same time in an objective way, recorded the damage and list what they think is necessary to repair that damage.

By signing the survey on the spot it has the important effect of preserving from oblivion and possible "misinterpretations" at a later date the facts of the matter.

Contrary to some misconceptions in the industry, signing of the field survey report does not automatically open up one's client to being liable for the damage. Liability issues are left to the underwriters and attorneys to determine. Also, if an attending surveyor doesn't agree with an aspect of the field survey, he can always take an exception and note it on the survey.

More about taking exceptions in our next issue.

ANNOUNCEMENT

David Tantrum was elected a partner of the firm at the Shareholders meeting which was held on October 2, 1997.

Everyone at Martin & Ottaway is pleased to offer our Congratulations to David and wish him continued success.

Chance encounter

Rik recently had a pleasant surprise while attending a cargo damage survey in Lisbon, Portugal. Rik bumped into our Rotterdam associate, Niek van Sas, who was also in Lisbon on an unrelated matter. The two of them enjoyed dinner at Rik's favorite restaurant "Pabe" which he highly recommends.

Association of Average Adjusters elects a new Chairman

At their annual meeting in September 1997, the Association of Average Adjusters of the United States elected Mr. Henk van Hemmen as their new Chairman. Henk will represent the Association for the next year at the various meetings, dinners and functions for the association in the US, Canada and the United Kingdom.

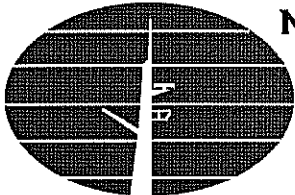
The outgoing Chairman, Mr. Don Rogers, wished Henk well during his tenure as Chairman. The firm is proud of this honor conferred upon Henk who has spent the last three decades laboring in the field of claims and claims presentation.

Milestone

The firm celebrated Henk's 65th birthday on August 10th of this year. In keeping with Henk's preference for nautical themes, the party was held onboard the stern paddle wheeler, the "RIVER LADY." A Dixieland Jazz band provided the entertainment and a good time was had by all hands.



The M/V "AMERICAN CORMORANT" seen on dry dock at Astilleros Espanoles shipyard in Cadiz, Spain where a condition survey was carried out by our firm. She is currently under contract to the Military Sealift Command and is the only heavy lift vessel under the US flag.



Established 1875

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