



# Standard Bulletin

January 2008

## Special Edition - Training



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Welcome to this special edition of Standard Bulletin, which is dedicated to the subject of training.

We at the Club are conscious that, with the world fleet developing at the rate that it is, training is a top priority for our members. Ship operators are challenged to ensure that experienced personnel remain up to date with all the latest developments, and at the same time, that less experienced personnel gain the knowledge and skills necessary to perform at optimum effectiveness. The same concerns are a constant pre-occupation for the Club Managers. Our future depends upon providing members with excellent service levels and, in order to achieve this, we need to have a comprehensive training programme.

Many of our staff have already obtained relevant professional qualifications, particularly in the legal, accountancy and insurance fields, and we support them in their continuous professional development. We also encourage and assist anyone who wishes to gain those qualifications. Whilst I do not want to single out any one individual, a number have achieved outstanding results in their exams over recent months.

Our training programme is backed up by a systematic audit of skills and competencies for all staff, allowing us to identify areas for development at all levels. This skills audit allows us to target training in an efficient way, ensuring that nothing is overlooked, but also that we avoid time-wasting.

We are always conscious of the need to achieve the best possible training cost effectively. Fortunately, we operate in the main marine insurance centres, and are able to draw upon the knowledge of top professionals in all relevant fields, either on our doorstep or when they visit from overseas.

Almost every week, we invite an eminent speaker to give us the benefit of their knowledge on a range of topics from legal updates to pollution. They appreciate the opportunity to network, whilst we are kept up to date on the important issues of the moment - a 'mutually' convenient arrangement for all.

Our efforts are also regularly supported by members who allow us access to their ships and shore facilities so that we can gain experience at first hand of the environment in which their ships operate. The Safety & Loss Advisory Committee, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in January 2007, has been an important influence too. The Committee, which consists of senior technical staff at member companies, reviews all major claims and advises the Managers on the technical aspects in an effort to direct further enquiries or establish lessons for the future. We, in turn, then pass on useful loss control information to our members.

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## Member Training Week

The Club held its first training week for members in London between 17 and 21 September 2007. 36 members from 27 companies attended.

There were three main aims behind the week: first, it was an opportunity for the managers to get to know our members better (and vice versa) and for our members to get to know each other; second, from a training perspective, it was designed to explain how P&I clubs are structured and what we, as Managers, do on a daily basis; third, the object was to have fun. From the feedback we received at the end of the week, all three aims were successfully achieved.

The content of the week's lectures and workshop was designed as an introduction to the world of P&I insurance for members' staff who were relatively new to the industry. The opportunity was also taken to train

seven of the Managers' staff at the same time. The programme was carefully planned to provide an overview of all the different aspects of P&I: from an explanation of what is covered by the Rules, to how new business is rated, what the reinsurance programme looks like and how different sorts of claims are handled. Of the 20 sessions, 16 were given by Charles Taylor staff, and four by external speakers.

There is clearly an appetite for this sort of event, so we plan to hold another training week this year. At the same time, we are considering the possibility of also holding an 'advanced' training event, which would enable us to explore specific areas in greater depth. If you would be interested in attending either event, please contact John.White-Thomson@ctcplc.com, ph. +44 (0)207 522 7479.



MEMBERS ATTENDING THE TRAINING WEEK

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Each year, in addition to the specialist 'Masters' Guides' that we publish, the Club conducts numerous seminars and workshops around the world.

A new development is that we have recently completed our first-ever member training week, during which we were pleased to welcome staff from companies from around the world. A full report on this follows.

In offering and receiving this support, we are aware that the transfer of expertise is a two-way process. Sharing knowledge so that we all benefit goes to the heart of the mutual ethos to which we are committed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who regularly put

themselves out to help us, whether members or providers of the many services on which we are so dependent.

I hope you find this publication of real value. If you would like to learn more about how we can help you, please do not hesitate to get in touch. [Jeremy.Grose@ctcplc.com](mailto:Jeremy.Grose@ctcplc.com)





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## Working with Members

The Club has a regular programme of events designed to assist with member training, including seminars and workshops on a variety of topics. The content is often driven by new issues affecting members of the Club. Workshops may be conducted for individual members on specific topics that have been requested by them or may be presented by the Club for shipowners in a specific region.

The programme over the last year has included the following:

1. A series of lectures and workshops presented by the Club and various law firms on subjects ranging from Bills of Lading, Oily Water Separator Claims through to Rule B attachments.
2. Standard Asia has continued to conduct an annual series of seminars. Last year there was a relaunch of the series, involving both external speakers in addition to the Club's claims personnel who made presentations on Club cover and the Club's approach to P&I issues in addition to an interactive workshop on casualty management.
3. The Club hosted oil pollution seminars in Genoa and Piraeus on 16 and 18 May. The concept behind the seminars was to bring together some of the leading experts in pollution law from those countries that are taking a particularly hostile approach towards shipowners accused of pollution infringements, and to review the present trends and problem areas existing in those jurisdictions.
4. Bi-Annual Seminar in Piraeus presented jointly by the Club and Average Adjusters, Richards Hogg Lindley, in June. The topics included Principles of Marine Insurance, General Average and Pollution, Constructive Total Loss, Wreck Removal, Shifting Stow, Collision Clause, Fixed and Floating Damage, Loss of Hire, Security, Surveying and Shipyard Risk Assessment.
5. The Club held a workshop on bills of lading in Istanbul on 27 September. The workshop was a follow-up to one held the previous year, and particular focus was given to negotiable, straight and seaways bills as well as charterparty issues concerning safe ports.
6. The New York Claims Forum took place on 17 October. Seventeen participants from eight different members from the US and Canada attended. Round table discussions focused on areas that the Club believes are relevant to our members' exposures, such as piracy and war risks, criminalisation of the seafarer under MARPOL and some of the developing trends in the claims being presented to the Club. US personal injury claims were also examined, with discussion on forum selection and changes to the Jones Act, mediation strategies and trial preparation.
7. The 7th annual Offshore Forum was held in London on 6 November. The Forum focused on the impact of political risk, regulatory and operational risk management, and the maximization of cover for FPSO construction and installation risks by making use of the interaction between P&I and CAR insurance. Presentations from this year's forum

can be found at: <http://www.standard-club.com/content/Offshore.aspx>

8. The Club held a seminar for the benefit of the Indian shipping community in Mumbai on 22 November. The seminar was tailored for senior management and was designed to provide guidance on several topical subjects affecting the industry, with particular focus on MARPOL compliance and the challenge this presents to ship operators. The Club also presented a summary of the trends and pressures in the growing Indian offshore oil and energy market, and the role of the P&I Club dealing with these influences.
9. The Club hosted the second annual Asia Offshore Forum in December which was attended by 60 representatives of the shipping, offshore, and oil and gas sectors. The first session was on the pre-production insurances required for an FPSO, some of the legal and supply chain issues faced by offshore contractors, and the operational risks that can arise in offshore projects. The afternoon took the form of a workshop and discussion on contractual issues, such as the erosion of knock for knock and a presentation on "the best of times, the worst of contracts", looking at the problems created when standard form wordings are adapted to favour the interests of one party alone.

The events listed above illustrate the Club's commitment to service and training. They also provided a valuable opportunity to share and exchange knowledge with the Club's membership. Further seminars and training events are always being planned and we would welcome views on the current issues that may benefit from similar discussion.



PIRAEUS OIL POLLUTION SEMINAR, MAY 2007



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AN ON-SITE VISIT WAS ARRANGED TO THE *PRIDE OF HULL*

## Training For Managers' Staff

Shipping is a fast changing industry and it is important that those who work within it keep up to speed with the latest developments and build on their pre-existing knowledge. The Standard Club recognises this need and is fully committed to the training of its claim executives, underwriters and managers. What follows a snapshot of some of the training that has been organised over the last year:

1. Guest speakers from law firms and surveying companies are invited in

on a monthly basis to, talk to the Club about industry topics. Recent lecture titles have included: "The Role of ITOPF", "Anti Suit Injunctions", "Managing the Litigation Risk" and "Managing Bunker Disputes". This is complemented by an annual half-day seminar which is organised and run by a leading shipping City law firm and based on a workshop scenario. Last year's half-day seminar, organised by Reed Smith Richards Butler focused on "Common Charterparty Problems".

2. Lecture series have been organised, which concentrate on a particular topic or other areas of interests where it has been determined by the Managers that further training would be beneficial. Recent lectures have included an overview of marine insurance law and personal injury.
3. On-site ship visits have been organised for new joiners to give them hands-on experience of the ships that make up their day to day work. The most recent trip gave four new joiners the opportunity to visit members, P&O in Hull and to go on board the *Pride of Hull*, a 59,925gt passenger ferry. Such trips give the claim executives and underwriters first hand experience of a working ship and the problems that can arise in its daily operation.
4. Ad hoc lectures are organised to give visiting overseas lawyers the opportunity to brief the Club on important developments in their jurisdiction. Recent topics have included "Criminalisation in the US" and an "Update on Chinese maritime litigation".
5. To ensure that there is continuity of training between all the Standard Club offices, lectures that are taking place in London have been filmed and are accessible by the Singapore, New York and Piraeus offices.

The legal environment in which we and our members operate rarely stands still. The programme I have outlined above, which sits alongside individual executives' own training regimes, keeps us all up-to-date with the latest developments in legal issues around the world.

## Staff News

### Claims

Enam Hussain has joined Syndicate D as a Claims Executive

### Underwriting

Karina Smith has joined Syndicate A as an Underwriting Assistant

### Re-insurance

Andy Cunningham has joined the Reinsurance Department as Assistant Reinsurance Manager