

MARITIME SAFETY COMMITTEE
106th session
Agenda item 18

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Together in Safety initiative

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INTERCARGO and INTERFERRY

SUMMARY

Executive summary: A coalition of industry NGOs, organizations and maritime safety experts have come together with the core objective of protecting seafarers' lives while delivering improved efficiency and effectiveness, which is fundamental to shipping's future. Looking beyond the regulatory framework, the coalition shares best practices in four key areas: leadership; incident prevention; wellbeing and care; and collaboration. Through this process, industry can learn across the sectors and raise safety standards across the board.

Strategic direction, if applicable: 6

Output: 6.1

Action to be taken: Paragraph 9

Related documents: None

Introduction

1 This document is submitted in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 6.12.6 of the *Organization and method of work of the Maritime Safety Committee and the Marine Environment Protection Committee and their subsidiary bodies* (MSC-MEPC.1/Circ.5/Rev.3), providing information on an initiative to improve safety.

Background

2 The maritime industry is one which is exposed to many unique hazards and the seafarers on board ships face risks that are absent in many other workplaces. The regulatory framework generated by IMO and implemented by the Member States provides a solid backdrop for safe working. However, various leaders of our industry wished to go further and aim for the very highest targets in safety management to address the accidents that continue to occur.

Safety coalition

3 In January 2019, leading members of the industry came together to address safety issues. The coalition formed brought together participants from the tanker, dry bulk, container, offshore, ferry, cruise, Class and insurance sectors.

4 The aim of the group was to learn from each other through the sharing of best practices, as well as from other sectors such as rail and aviation who have successfully reduced their accident rates. To this end, best practices and guidance developed in one part of the industry was openly shared with every other part.

Key areas

5 Together in safety has focused its main efforts on four key areas: leadership; incident prevention; wellbeing and care; and collaboration.

Leadership. World-class safety is as much about culture as operations, so when visible safety is championed from the top of an organization, it can be truly transformative.

Incident Prevention. Based on extensive major incident type data, we target the key risk areas faced by the industry and offer clear, practical guidance on how to stay safe.

Wellbeing & Care. A working environment where employees feel supported and cared for is one of the key pillars in making sure you have a healthy, happy and high-performing team.

Collaboration. Working together on industry challenges to combine collective knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the industry.

6 As an example of the work on incident prevention, the coalition undertook a detailed analysis of major shipping incidents over the past 10 years with the result that we identified some 14 major incident types, eradicating just 5 of these would have a dramatic improvement on safety performance, including loss of life, asset damage and pollution. The coalition is now working towards that aim.

7 All information and guidance can be found on the Together in Safety open-source website: <https://togetherinsafety.info/>

Conclusion

8 The coalition continues to grow with much information shared and best practices provided to all, to raise safety standards in every sector. Through this initiative, industry can learn across the sectors and raise standards across the board, working together towards ensuring that accidents are prevented and seafarers are kept safe.

Action requested of the Committee

9 The Committee is invited to note the information provided and that it can be found at the open-source website: <https://togetherinsafety.info/>