

LLOYD'S REGISTER AND NAUTICAL INSTITUTE PRESS RELEASE

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LLOYD'S REGISTER CONFIRMS SPONSORSHIP OF HUMAN ELEMENT INITIATIVE

The Lloyd's Register Educational Trust has confirmed its sponsorship of the award-winning human element awareness project *Alert!* for a further three years. The initiative will remain under the direction of the Nautical Institute.

Alert! was launched in 2003 to raise awareness in the industry about how the human element fits into the design and operation of ships and shipboard equipment. The publication, which has a circulation of 70,000, is edited by Commodore David Squire of the Nautical Institute and covers a wide variety of professional interests, including ship operation, design, engineering, regulation and training.

"There is much evidence to suggest that, in recent years, human element considerations have taken on a much higher profile across the maritime industry," says Squire. "Nonetheless, there is still much work to be done in promoting awareness and applying workable solutions towards improving the performance of the human element. I wholeheartedly welcome a further three years to undertake this important work and hope that we can progress from awareness raising to action taking on an industry-wide level."

The second phase of the *Alert!* project will focus on the application of the body of knowledge that has already been accumulated to address key human element issues, such as fatigue; effective communication; automation and alarm management; complacency and routinisation; slips, trips and falls; health, safety and wellbeing; recruitment and retention; education and training; and information management.

Captain Nicholas Cooper, FNI, President of the Nautical Institute, says: "The fact that *Alert!* is set to continue is wonderful news, and the Nautical Institute thanks the Lloyd's Register Educational Trust for its support. The fact that the project has won such wide-ranging support and praise internationally indicates that the project has raised the awareness of human element issues within our community. The benefits of ensuring that ships and systems are designed with the operators in mind seem to be paying off both with improved safety and commercial efficiency."

Vaughan Pomeroy, Head of Research and Development, Lloyd's Register, says: "We are delighted with the enthusiastic reception that the first 12 bulletins have received. We hope that the next series, which will aim to build on the awareness created by the first phase, will become a valuable resource for marine professionals."

The next issue of *Alert!* will be published in January 2007 and thereafter in May and September. It will continue to be an eight-page publication and will retain the same style and format as previous issues.

Ends.

Notes for editors

1. Lloyd's Register is an independent risk management organisation. The Lloyd's Register Group works to help improve its clients' quality, safety, environmental and business performance throughout the world, because life matters. Its expertise and activities cover shipping, railways, other land-based industries and oil and gas. The Group comprises charities and non-charitable companies, with the latter supporting the charities in their main public benefit goal.
2. The Nautical Institute is the world's leading international professional body for qualified mariners and those associated with the maritime profession. Through its Constitution, the Council of the Nautical Institute is directed to 'provide the strongest possible professional focus, dedicated to improving standards of those in control of seagoing craft, while maintaining the Institute as an international centre of nautical excellence'. Founded in 1972, it is a thriving international professional body for qualified mariners, with over 40 branches worldwide and some 7,000 members in over 110 countries. www.nautinst.org
3. Lloyd's Register's sponsorship of the human element awareness initiative forms part of its structured programme of financial support for education, training and research, in pursuit of its constitutional obligations. The programme focuses on engineering and technology, with an emphasis on the industrial sectors in which Lloyd's Register's principal businesses are active.
4. Images of Nick Cooper, President of the Nautical Institute, Vaughan Pomeroy, Lloyd's Register and David Squire, Editor of Alert! are available from news@lr.org

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ERRATUM

Please be advised that our recent press release entitled "Lloyd's Register's *Marine Fuel Sulphur Record Book* receives MCA approval" contains a factual inaccuracy.

Where Tim Wilson, FOBAS Product Manager, is quoted as saying in the third paragraph, "The second edition has been updated to reflect the new EC directive and we are delighted that the MCA has approved it as a way of demonstrating compliance with sulphur regulations – particularly with the North Sea becoming a SECA on November 22 this year," it should read "...particularly with the North Sea becoming a SECA on November 22 next year".

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.