



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

Sagar Sandesh

Maritime Tabloid English Weekly E-Paper

In association with R L Institute of Nautical Sciences, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. | RNI No. TNENG/2012/41759 | Wednesday, July 29, 2020 | Voyage 9 Wave 26

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Challenges of Remote Survey and Inspection of Ships in Covid -19 Situation ! Mr. Ajoy Chatterjee, Former Chief Surveyor with the Government of India; IMO Consultant and Lead IMSAS Auditor and Director Academics, ADU Academy



Mr. Ajoy Chatterjee

In this year - 2020 the coronavirus pandemic has placed the entire world in an unprecedented situation. In order to slow the spread of the disease and mitigate its impacts, travel have been curtailed and several borders are closed. Transport hubs for ships and airlines are affected. In many ports ships are denied entry. Without smooth movement of ships worldwide, the economy and well-being of our planet will surely collapse. It is, therefore, crucially important that the flow of commerce by sea should not be unnecessarily disrupted. At the same time, the safety of ships and life at sea and protection of the marine environment must also remain paramount. It is necessary to adopt a practical and pragmatic approach, in these unusual times, from issues like crew changes, ship repairs survey and certification and continued licensing of seafarers.

In these unprecedented times of global shutdown, the shipping industry has been forced to move rapidly

into the digital age so that statutory surveys, inspection and certification of ships is not delayed due to inability the surveyors to visit the vessels. This has forced flag states and Recognized Organizations (ROs) to develop their own procedures for remote surveys/ inspections.

The shipping industry is often seen as averse to change and reluctant to move into the future! However, COVID-19 has shown what can be done with today's technology we already have available to us and it is imperative that the momentum is not lost.

Although remote inspection of ships has been in vogue for a while, automatic defect detection or augmented inspections will use new technologies, such as data science and Artificial Intelligence (AI) models using pattern-recognition software, to detect structural defects in advance and assess their severity. Data collected over time from ships or offshore units can be integrated into the 3D digital twin model developed during the newbuilding phase. This enables ship owners and managers to better monitor and maintain their assets throughout the operational lifecycle. By using remote and augmented survey technologies like drones, ROVs and crawlers, surveyors can safely conduct onboard surveys, allowing owners to optimize the inspection process.

Once the remote survey has been conducted, and surveyors have evaluated a ship's compliance, an electronically signed e-certificate can be issued when applicable. This ensures an entirely digital experience from end to end.

Maintaining confidence in the credibility of remote surveys is where the challenge really lies. For many surveyors, the survey/inspection starts before they have even stepped foot on the vessel. Walking along the dock and looking at the hull, the state of the gangway, the

demeanor of the crew and countless other factors can give the surveyor a 'feel' for the ship before the true survey or inspection begins. Even crew on the best-run ships can feel nervous before and during a survey/inspection or safety audit. With remote surveys you do not

even have to try and hide these things: the crew are in complete control of what the surveyor can see. This possibility of problems being missed is sure to be the key argument from those who are against the shift to remote surveys.

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A HAPPY ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE READERS

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- - PUBLISHER

Provisional Pension for employees retiring during Covid-19 till PPO is ready



After the Modi Government took over, the Department of Pensions equipped itself to deliver the PPO to the concerned employee on the day of his or her superannuation: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Dr Jitendra Singh

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

A good piece of news for the government employees due to retire during Covid-10. This eliminates the uncertainty about pension the employees might feel and the provisional pension till their PPO is issued takes away the financial worries at least to some extent.

It is heartening to note that the Government manifests consideration for the employees during an unprecedented crisis of great magnitude.

Pertinent to Central Armed Forces always on the move

Central Government

Employees Pension during Pandemic: "This is very pertinent to the Central Armed Police Forces who are constantly on the move and whose Heads of Offices are located in cities different from where the Pay & Accounts Office is located," said Singh, Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

In an official statement on 27 July 2020, the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, said that the Central Government Employees retiring during COVID pandemic will be receiving "provisional" pension till their regular Pension Payment Order (PPO) is issued and other official formalities completed.

Challenges of Remote Survey and Inspection

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All stakeholders in the industry need to be confident that remote surveys are not simply a 'soft' approach and that their credibility is guaranteed. This standardized approach will ultimately

need to come from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to ensure the same standard is met across the board, built around a strong legal framework. IMO legislation currently contains very strict

guidelines on how surveys should be performed; any update regarding remote surveys will need collaboration between flag states and ROs along with other industry stakeholders.

India designates SpiceJet as scheduled carrier to United States

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Under the Air Services Agreement with the United States, India has designated SpiceJet as the scheduled carrier to operate on agreed services between the two countries.


This designation would help us plan for our international expansion in a much better and calibrated manner: CMD SpiceJet

Ajay Singh, chairman

& managing director, SpiceJet said, "It gives me immense pleasure to share that SpiceJet has been designated as an Indian scheduled carrier to operate between India and the US. This designation would help us plan for our international expansion in a much better and calibrated manner. I have always maintained that there is an opportunity in every adversity and the present crisis situation has seen SpiceJet rise to the occasion and play a pivotal role. From operating over 4300 cargo flights to carrying over 24,000

tons of cargo to operating over 400 charter flights to bring thousands of stranded Indian nationals back home, SpiceJet has worked non-stop and contributed in whatever manner possible."


In a stock exchange filing SpiceJet said, "This is to inform you that in terms of the Air Services Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America, SpiceJet has been designated as Indian scheduled carrier to operate on agreed services between India and the USA."



PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 & SAVE LIVES

- Avoid gathering in public places
- Don't go out unless absolutely essential
- Don't hesitate to wash your hands with soap repeatedly
- Eat healthy foods
- Isolate yourselves; Honour social distance
- Be alert, awake to chase and kill the deadly virus Covid -19 (Corona)

Always in service to our motherland and maritime industry



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