

Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System
U.S. Coast Guard



Press Release

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Amver ship saves two sailors in dramatic Atlantic rescue (audio available)

NEW YORK – Two sailors were rescued from the sailboat Triumph on Wednesday July 27, 2011 approximately 780 miles northeast of Cape Cod, Mass. after their boat began taking on water.

The sailors sent a distress call to U.S. Coast Guard rescue personnel in Boston stating their sails were torn, the engine was disabled, and they were taking on water. Coast Guard rescue personnel immediately queried the Amver system and requested the tanker Kim Jacob divert and assist the duo.

Amver, sponsored by the United States Coast Guard, is a unique, computer-based, and voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea.

The rescue was complicated by the size of the Liberian flagged tanker and the worsening weather conditions as winds over 30 knots and waves over 8 feet hampered the operation. One of the Triumph sailors fell into the ocean while attempting to climb aboard the Kim Jacob but the crew kept a sharp lookout and recovered the survivor three hours after he went into the water.

Once onboard the Kim Jacob the survivors received medical attention, food, and talked to Coast Guard personnel. The survivors were well equipped with an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) and personal floatation devices. Their preparation, coupled with the skill and seamanship of the Kim Jacob crew, resulted in their rescue.

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The survivors will stay aboard the Kim Jacob until it reaches its next port in Port Tupper, Nova Scotia. Their boat was marked as a navigational hazard and left adrift.

The Kim Jacob is managed by Ernst Jacob GmbH and Company of Hamburg, Germany and enrolled in the Amver system on May 11, 1998. The Kim Jacob has earned 13 awards for Amver participation.

With Amver, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond. Prior to sailing, participating ships send a sail plan to the Amver computer center. Vessels then report every 48 hours until arriving at their port of call. This data is able to project the position of each ship at any point during its voyage. In an emergency, any rescue coordination center can request this data to determine the relative position of Amver ships near the distress location. On any given day there are over 4,000 ships available to carry out search and rescue services. Visit <http://www.amver.com> to learn more about this unique worldwide search and rescue system.

An audio recording of the case can be heard here:

<http://www.amver.com/audio/sailing-vessel-triumph-rescue.mp3>

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