

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



Press Release

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Amver tanker rescues 4 sailors

NEW YORK – Three Americans and one Canadian were rescued by the Amver tanker Alpine Maya on September 6th after their 50 foot sailboat became disabled and was adrift approximately 720 nautical miles north east of Oahu, Hawaii.

The sailboat, the Nomad, was sailing from Hawaii to Los Angeles when they reported to family they lost main engine and auxiliary power. The crew of the Nomad began making emergency notifications. Coast Guard personnel from the Fourteenth District Command Center heard the Nomad's distress call and contacted the M/V Alpine Maya which was 176 miles away from the Nomad's distress position. The Hong Kong flagged tanker immediately diverted to assist. After steaming over 8 hours, Captain Mohan Dhinakaran maneuvered the Alpine Maya alongside the sailboat to commence rescue operations.

The four sailors let Captain Dhinakaran know of their intention to abandon ship and quickly climbed aboard the Alpine Maya. The rescued sailors, in an email to the Amver system, praised the actions of the Alpine Maya. "Without you and your crew we would not be alive today," they wrote.

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 Alpine Maya is sailing to China where the survivors will be met by U.S. State Department personnel. The Alpine Maya enrolled in the Amver system on July 20, 2010.

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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 3,700 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.

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