Press Release

Date: October 18, 2007

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AMVER PROMOTES GLOBAL SEARCH AND RESCUE AT RUSSIAN SHIPPING EXHIBITION

NEW YORK – The Amver Maritime Relations staff recently returned from the 9th NEVA exhibition in St. Petersburg, Russia. Russian hospitality abounded and their interest in the Amver search and rescue system surged.

Amver Web site hits increased 238% and several shipping companies seized the opportunity to enroll their vessels. Russian vessels already enrolled in the system increased their reporting. This increase should make for a record number of Russian vessels eligible for 2007 Amver participation awards.

"It is the only occasion where the entire Russian maritime spectrum gathers in the same place, at the same time," explains Roderick Keay, General Director of Dolphin Exhibitions, joint organizers of the event with the Transtec NEVA Exhibitions Company. "This gathering of Russian ship owners can have a very positive impact on the Amver system if only a fraction of them enroll their vessels" he continued.

United States Coast Guard Vice Commandant Vivien Crea agreed that an increase in Russian participation was a benefit to shipping.   "As commercial shipping increases in austere and hazardous parts of the world, we will need to rely on each other to assist and respond to distress in the event of a maritime emergency" said Vice Admiral Crea.

The Amver system is a voluntary, worldwide ship reporting system. 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 3,200 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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