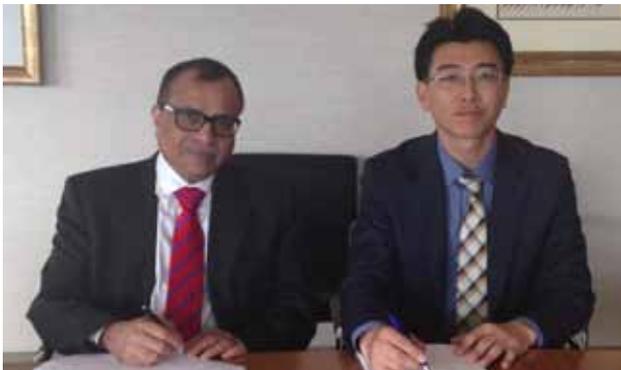




Tristar in US\$200 Million New Shipbuilding Deal

Tristar has reached an agreement and placed a firm order for six new MR product/chemical tankers with Korean shipbuilder Hyundai Mipo Dockyard. The vessels are expected to be delivered in 2016 and will be built to the latest specifications with an improved hull form design, making them more fuel efficient and eco-friendly.



As per latest market analysis tankers hauling refined oil products are expected to return to profitability from 2014, for the first time since 2008. The rise in charter rates are being strengthened by the biggest expansion in Middle East crude refining on record. Tristar is confident of taking advantage of the expected increase in charter rates along with lower initial costs.

The new tankers will operate with lower fuel consumption than existing tonnage, making them much more economical to operate. They will be fitted with additional fuel saving equipment such as Propeller Boss Cap Fins, New Profile Technology Propeller and Trim Optimization System.

Tristar is investing in new tonnage in anticipation of a recovery in the Shipping Industry. Since the disposal of two aged MR tankers in 2011 Tristar has been anticipating and waiting for a market recovery and believe the market is on the verge of seeing better returns for the Shipping Industry in 2014 and beyond. With these acquisitions Tristar is expanding its investment portfolio in the Marine sector and intends to continue to purchase further tonnage in the near future. The contract with Hyundai Mipo was signed in London in October 2013 by Tristar Group CEO Eugene Mayne and Hyundai Mipo Executive T.Y Park.

When delivered it is anticipated that the ships will be placed on long term time charter with an oil major. Demand for this type of vessels has increased with new building prices rising by around 20 percent in 2013. High bunker prices make fuel economy a major factor at present and in the future.

“This investment fits in with our long term strategy to diversify our business portfolio and to position our company as a major player in the clean product tanker segment,” said Mr. Mayne.

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Message from the Group CEO



Trust all of you have had a happy New Year celebration and most are back from your festive celebrations.

This year we need to do even better than we did in 2013. While our performance in 2013 was as per plan we need to see a more aggressive growth in 2014 if we are to remain on track to reach our top line revenue target of USD 700 million in 2017.

I would like to use this New Year's message to extend my deep appreciation and gratitude to each one of you for your untiring efforts that have enabled us achieve our targets for 2013. Not forgetting the sacrifice and support of each of our families that made it possible for us to give our best in 2013. I therefore look forward to your continued support and loyalty to take us to even greater successes in 2014 and beyond.

I would briefly like to touch upon our successes and achievements in 2013. Of course it goes without saying that our two major wins in 2013 were Project Silver and the successful renewal of our contract in South Sudan for another five year term. A special thank you to each one of you who contributed to the successful conclusion of these projects.

Project Silver is of special significance as we secured this win, for six brand new ships on long term time charter to Shell, against all odds and one that propels our ship owning business to new heights. The six MR tankers with a capacity of 50,000 tons each will be built in Korea at a cost of USD 200 million and will be delivered to us in 2016.

Another important milestone for us in 2013 was our long awaited entry into Saudi Arabia. As previously announced we have entered into a Joint Venture agreement with ENOC for the set up of a liquid logistics operation in KSA and we are confident that this will soon grow to be our largest fleet operation in KSA. We would be looking to own and operate a 2,000-strong trucking fleet in the kingdom in the next three to five years. Some of our other achievements in 2013 were:

- We commissioned the barge Gulf Star 1 in Oman in September on a time charter with Shell Oman. The Tristar Pride has been relocated to Sohar to service our marine supply services agreement with Sohar Port authority.
- We commenced construction of an aviation fuel depot in Malakal, South Sudan and have also bagged an into-plane aviation contract with flydubai.
- We also secured a turnkey fuel contract in Uganda which will start operations in April 2014.

• We were also successful in renewing warehousing and distribution contracts with Shell Oman and Dubai for further period of five years.

I am also proud to announce that after a long and patient wait of nearly 10 years we were finally certified as a Professional Haulier by Shell. This makes us the first company in the MESA and MEAF region to receive the distinguished title of Professional Haulier with the entire global system of Shell. Congratulations and thanks to all those who worked tirelessly to make this happen.

Moving Forward In 2014

Our first milestone for 2014 is to win the Dubai Quality Award which is a national award for Quality and Business Excellence. We will host seven assessors from the DQA Assessor Team who will complete the final round of the award process with a physical audit of our premises on February 4 and 5. We are keeping our fingers crossed for a successful outcome.

On the business side we will continue our focus on operational excellence to meet and exceed the expectations of our customers without compromising our core values of honesty, integrity and respect for all. Safety in operations must continue to be a top priority and I urge each of one of our leaders to ensure the safety and well-being of each one of our employees whose well-being has been entrusted to us by their families.

I would like to sign off by wishing each one of you all the very best for 2014 and beyond.

God bless you all.

Sincerely,

EUGENE MAYNE

GCEO in Haiti



Group CEO Eugene Mayne (in coat) poses with Tristar Haiti staff at the new airport depot project site in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti on November 22. The project comprises five tanks for Jet A-1 and diesel. Also in photo is Business Development Director Karl Mason (in white wearing tie) who used to head the Tristar Haiti operations.

DQA Assessor Team Leader Visit



Rejil Kumar (middle), appointed by the Dubai Department of Economic Development to be the team leader of the Dubai Quality Award (DQA) Assessor Team, met with the core members of the Fast Forward Task Force last December 3. He was accompanied by Heidi Struiksma (lower left), a member of the Assessor Team. The two visited the head office to clarify on the key information of the Tristar organization which will form the foundation of the actual assessment that will be conducted on February 4 and 5, 2014. There will be a total of seven assessors who will be visiting the company.

Professional Haulier Recognition



Group HSE Manager Faisal Bhatti holds the crystal miniature of a road tanker conferred by Shell to Tristar as its first Professional Haulier in the Middle East and South Asia. Shown in photo taken on December 12 in Muscat, Oman are (from left to right) Saif Al Ruwaishidi of Tristar, Asif Ansari of Shell, Ashok Kulkarni of Shell, Muhammad Akber of Tristar, Mohamed Nayef Al-Herais of Shell, Linda Philips of Shell, and Victor Mascarenhas of Tristar.

SABIC Visitor



Mr. Ahmed Al Musfer (center), GM, Supply Chain, Performance Chemicals SBU from SABIC, was toured around the Tristar head office and warehouse by Tristar Saudi Arabia General Manager K. Seshadri (2nd right). Also shown in photo is Nishant Jacob (right) of the Al Mazro Group which is the local sponsor of Tristar in the kingdom.

ERP Training for Global Network



Group shot taken on the eve of Christmas Day with participants from the global network and the consultant from Oracle which is the supplier of the Enterprise Resource Planning software program.

Tristar Distributes School Bags in Haiti

Tristar Haiti launched its biggest CSR project so far with the distribution of backpacks to school children. The initiative covered four institutions in the last week of November and first week of December. The team will continue distributing in January until the 1,000th piece has been turned over.



The first distribution was held on November 25 at the premises of the non-governmental organization (NGO) Development For Freedom International (DFI).

“On behalf of DFI, I would just like to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the 100 backpacks you donated to our students of Ecole D’Agape and the handicapped children..... There were such bright smiles on each of their faces when they received

the backpacks and they were so happy that now they have a sturdy bag to carry all their books in,” said Esther Kim, DFI founder.

The other beneficiaries were the St. Joseph school run by Missionaries of Charity in Port-Au-Prince, a school in the Gonaives region managed by Catholic nuns from India, and DCHF, an NGO engaged in children healthcare project in Port-Au-Prince.

Aviation Training Continues in DRC

A total of 22 participants split in two batches underwent the Aviation Refresher Training from October 21 to 25. The participants included representatives from the international peacekeeping organization. The training covered systematic theoretical to practical approaches on aviation airfield operations, safety, quality and stock control, among others.



Rick William (left) of Hansa Consults facilitated the training. The sessions were also interactive and the teaching methods took into account the special needs of the participants such as emphasizing on real field activities.

According to Biswajit Saha, Asst. GM - DRC Operations, Tristar’s initiative and investment yielded positive results as all participants significantly increased their level of knowledge and skills.

Matatu Seminars in Kenya

A series of Matatu seminars were conducted by Africa Fuel and Lubricants LTD (AFAL) in October and November to re-establish Caltex as the preferred brand of choice for the Matatu sector in Kenya.



Matatus are 14- and 25-seater public transport vans and mini buses, respectively. The vehicles are individually owned and managed but the owners agreed to form a cooperative where they make daily savings and borrow loans, as well as control traffic routes.

Shown in photo is Charles Mbithi, AFAL Technical and Training Manager, conducting the seminar in Nyeri on October 22.

News in Photos



Stop Work Card

On December 5, driver Faizal Pozhath invoked his stop work authority by showing the Stop Work Card to a customer who wanted him to bring his truck into the barge using an unsafe ramp. All Tristar drivers and staff are given the cards wherein they have to show to immediately stop all unsafe work practices and activities that threaten the health of the workforce or endanger the environment.

The customer finally agreed to offload the lubricant oil drums at the dock. Hence, the delivery was performed safely.

Faizal Pozhath was subsequently recognized for his quick thinking and safe practice by Tristar's management. He received a certificate of appreciation which was handed over by Shell General Manager for Downstream Road Safety Linda Philips on December 9.



Rewarding Drivers

Raju Thomas (right) was recognized and rewarded by Air BP for his safety contribution in the 3rd quarter, while Ivan Mendonca received his recognition and reward from Shell for maintaining his safe driving records. Mohamed Nayef Al-Herais (with visitor's badge) of Shell was present when Ivan received his cash reward.



Tristar DRC in Mock Drill

Under the actual scenario of an aircraft crash landing at the Kisangani Airport in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) due to a technical problem, the Tristar DRC Team in Kinsangani was tasked to take care of the 'spillages' in the mock drill. The team performed well for their 'prompt response with safety measures taken' said the customer's safety officers.



Total HSE Audit Team

The Total HSE Audit Team visited the Tristar head office on October 31 to evaluate the company's health, safety and environmental practices.



Bridgestone-Bandag Tyres Appreciation

Tristar Oman country manager Victor Mascarenhas (left) receives a crystal memento from Towel Auto Group general manager Riyadh Ali Sultan representing Bridgestone-Bandag Tyres.

PAKISTAN



Road Safety Awareness for School Children

On December 21, Tristar Pakistan sponsored a road safety awareness session with the National Highway and Motorway Police for young students of The Educators School in Karachi. The students were given gift packs and valuable road safety booklets.



Supporting a School in Karachi

In collaboration with the non-governmental organization HANDS Karachi Rural, Tristar Pakistan extended its support to the Sughra Sabir Memorial Trust School (Nodo Jokhio Village). Tristar established a new classroom by providing 50 chairs and 10 tables. The company also distributed 150 school bags on December 4.

GUAM



Local Soup Kitchen

Kusina Kamalen Karidat is a local soup kitchen in Guam which has been operating for over 10 years. The kitchen's goal is to serve a hot meal to the island's less fortunate residents every evening throughout the year. On October 16, it was Tristar Guam's turn to volunteer feeding the jobless and homeless.



Reusable Bags

Tristar Guam employees show their reusable bags which is being encouraged to replace plastic bags. The company will reward any employee seen shopping with the reusable bag.



Coastal Clean-up

Tristar employees and their families participated at the 12th Annual Coastal Clean-up at Nimitz beach in Guam on September 27.

UAE



Donation to Super Typhoon Haiyan Victims

Group CEO Eugene Mayne showed to Philippine Consul General Frank Cimafranca a cheque worth Dhs25,000 which the company donated to the super typhoon victims in Central Philippines. The amount was deposited in the account of ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc. Sagip Kapamilya.



Clean-up the World in Dubai

Volunteers from the head office pose with other clean-up the world volunteers outside the Al Sufouh beach in Dubai on November 21.



Recycled Paper for Printing

IT Assistant Manager and Recyclers Team Leader Jayesh Menon shows the packaging of the 80 gsm paper which is 100% recycled and chlorine free.



Donation to Sick Baby Boy

Corporate Communications Manager Art Los Banos handed over Tristar's cash donation to the mother and grandmother of baby Lance who has hydrocephalus or 'water on the brain'. The money will be used for the shunt operation to drain the fluid and divert it to other parts of his body to allow his head to develop normally.

Tristar Annual Party 2013

The Tristar Annual Party 2013 was held at the newly opened Conrad Hotel on Sheikh Zayed Road on December 13. Photos show the various activities enjoyed by everyone. A clown who doubled as a face-painter did not only treat children but adults, too.

It was also the occasion to recognize long-term serving staff. Santa Claus handed over gifts to children while some staff benefited from the raffle of electronic gadgets and personal items. Till the next party in 2014!



Tristar Toastmasters Club Debating Team



The Tristar Toastmasters Debating Team composed of (left to right) Jayesh Menon (president), Vengat Moorthy (secretary) and Dinesh Kumar (VP for membership) won in the first round of the Interclub Debate Contest for Division J held on December 6 at the Skyline University in Sharjah. They were against the topic: A friend in need is a friend indeed, but all the learning comes from the enemy. With them is Area 57 Governor Ajaikumar (right).

Well Wishes for Rajeev



Transport operations personnel and senior managers led by Group CEO Eugene Mayne gave a send-off lunch to Rajeev Cherakkatil on December 16.

EPPCO Staff in Drama



Admin staff Jijeesh Madhavan performed in a drama organized by the Indian consulate in Dubai.

Congratulations



Tristar DRC staff Steve Saldanha got married to Johan on December 7.

Vegetable Garden Inside Tristar Compound



Xavier Caldeira shows the cucumber which has grown out of the vegetable garden located within the Tristar compound in Jebel Ali. Tomatoes are also being grown. The fertilizers being used come from the food recycling machine installed at the main pantry of the head office.

New Juba Accommodation



The Tristar South Sudan staff accommodation was recently inaugurated. It has 19 rooms and a gym and dining hall with kitchen.

Internet Banking Seminar for Field Staff



The IT Group conducted a session on Internet Banking for field staff at the Labor Accommodation on December 10. The session is a continuing educational program to help increase the IT knowledge of the staff. The IT Group will conduct monthly sessions covering various applications this year.