



SEMO's 2009 Annual Report

This year has been difficult for the Safety & Environmental Management Department too as it is an integral part of the operations of the ship. Fewer members attending the ship have meant that over the past 12 months I have not had the need to conduct any Safety Inductions. We all hope that this situation will be vastly improved during the early part of 2010 in order to progress the preparation of the ship for dry docking or slipping.

As most of you would be aware, our access to the ship has been a problem since approximately July last year. This has also caused major difficulties regarding the management of general garbage, recycling and other materials for disposal (i.e. bulk liquids etc). One of our long time sponsors, Ability Barge Services was happy to assist with the provision of transport. SITA Environmental Solutions was most happy to come to our aid in order to be able to store general garbage and recycling onboard (and appropriate disposal). SITA also kindly assists with the appropriate disposal of liquids and any other waste management needs we have. Both Ability Barge Services and SITA Environmental Solutions are proud to be of assistance to the MV Cape Don Society. We too are proud and thankful for their continued support. I am pleased to provide a full listing of our safety/environmental related sponsors, a brief description of each and their contact details is located at this end of this report.

Recently, SITA Environmental Solutions was prestigiously awarded the 2009 Asia Pacific Frost & Sullivan Industrial Technologies Award for Waste Management Company of the Year. The Frost & Sullivan Award for Waste Management Company of the Year is presented to the company, which demonstrates excellence in sustainable waste management solutions, significant deployment of waste handling technologies and market positioning as a leader in the market. Please contact me if you would like to receive the two page report outlining this award.

*During the year you may have read an article by RADM Andrew Robertson, the patron of the SHF entitled "Nuclear Submarines for Australia?". Personally, being made aware of the benefits for Australia and the strong possibility of utilising fusion technology I am a strong advocate for nuclear submarines to be on our Defence agenda. Andrew's article has been published in *The Navy*, but Andrew is happy for me to publicise as I see fit. I commend*

the article to you all. Do some research for yourself. Search nuclear fusion on the internet. For this reason those of you who are able to attend the 2009 AQM will be receiving a copy of the article with your other AQM documentation. If you would like me to email or send it to you please contact me.

For a large part of this year there has been significant media coverage about climate change. Rightly so in my opinion and indeed a large number of scientists and environmental protection and conservation organisations. Regardless of your views relating to climate change, one thing seems clear to me. Pollution of all types, not just carbon dioxide, contributes to illnesses of many types and environmental damage of huge cost. Just imagine the saving we could make by not polluting our planet to the same degree as presently done so. As the dominant species on Earth we take more regard for the wellbeing of our abode. If we do not, life will cease to exist as it currently does. Is this really what people want or want for future generations?

E-waste is another important area for consideration. The Commonwealth Government and many councils have thought so as well. The Hon. Peter Garrett MP, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts has said in a media release of 5th November this year, "Backed by Commonwealth legislation, a new industry-run national collection and recycling scheme for this growing mountain of electronic waste will be up and running in or before 2011". Some local councils are implementing a ban on e-waste collection as part of council waste management services as of next year. Ask your council if they are implementing a ban. According to Mr. Garrett's department, in 2007-08, 16.8 million televisions, computers and computer products reached their end of life, with 84 per cent sent to landfill. Only 10 per cent were recycled. Why is this such a big issue? E-waste contains many precious metals and other resources which need to be recycled properly as it contains dangerous and precious metals and materials. These include lead, mercury, phosphor, barium, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, beryllium, bromated flame retardants, copper, iron, silicon, nickel and gold, which are being needlessly squandered through careless disposal.

Your local council will be able to provide you with information on all your recycling needs. However, if you have difficulty finding some particular information please do not hesitate to contact me and I will endeavour to assist.

I did want to discuss briefly about the loss of two major Australian icons to overseas companies and the decision of one Australian company to manufacture offshore, but I will leave that to the first issue of my newsletter next year. There is a more pressing issue. As part of climate action, a major hurdle must be tackled by countries around the world. This relates to the destruction of rainforests around the globe. Did you know that every second of every day 1.5 acres of rainforest are destroyed forever. Forest destruction is responsible for about 20% of

global greenhouse gas emissions each year (Source: Greenpeace). The Amazon Rainforest alone produces more than 20% of the Earth's oxygen (Source: Raintree Nutrition). More next time, but one way you can help is by utilising sustainably produced wood. Check out: goodwoodguide.com.au and thegreendirectory.com.au .

In order to fulfil our corporate governance obligations to our members please find at the conclusion of this report the department's statistics for the Year (01/11/08 to 30/10/09).

The International Maritime Organisation has declared 2010 as the International Year of the Seafarer.

I look forward to working alongside you in our project which will and does have significant benefits for at least the Oceania Region. Do you know what the Oceania Region is?

Best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Kind regards

George Bate

SEMO (Safety & Environmental Management Officer)

Departmental Statistics (01/11/08 to 30/10/09):

Category	Item	Amount L/Kg/ Tonnes/m ³	Description/comments
Safety	Reportable incidents	0	As defined by AMSA/NSW Maritime.
	Safety Meetings	0	Due to insufficient volunteer numbers at working weekends formal meetings were not held.
	New Members Safety Induction Course	0	Due to insufficient new members requiring induction no courses were conducted.
Environment	General Garbage	18m ³	6 dumpster bins
	Co-mingled	3360L	14 X 250L bins
	Paper/cardboard	3960L	6 X 660L bins
	Incandescent globes	0	Commenced earlier this year. None sent away to date.
	Batteries	0	Commenced earlier this year. None sent away to date. Container ready for collection soon. As I have previously mentioned in <i>The Beacon</i> , all types of batteries accepted except automotive and marine type batteries.
	Bulk liquids	40L	Mixed liquids
	Printer/copier consumables	60L	Planet Ark has amended their programme. I am investigating alternative programmes.



Battery Recycling

Did you know?

- More than 8,000 tonnes of batteries end up in Australian landfills each year
- 80% of batteries used by Australian's everyday are single-use
- The average person uses 18 batteries each year, and an average household with children uses an incredible 109 batteries
- Rechargeable batteries can be used up to 1000 times making them a cost-effective and environmentally better alternative to single-use batteries
- Rechargeable batteries containing Nickel-cadmium (NiCd), Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) or Lithium-ion can all be recycled
- Button cell batteries (used in hearing aids and watches), contain silver and mercury, which is classed as hazardous waste, can be recycled

Departmental Sponsors:

In order to appropriately thank the department's sponsors, if only in a small way please find their details below:

Company	Description	Website	Phone
 ABILITY BARGE SERVICES <small>Steel Barge - Mooring Works - Salvage Works - Waterfront Deliveries</small>	Diesel sales, mooring services, salvage works, waterfront deliveries etc.		P 02 9810 0481
 BioMagic <small>An Environmental Solutions Company</small>	Sewage and wastewater treatment, water purification solutions for residential, marine, RV, commercial, agricultural and industrial usage.	biomagic.com.au	P 1800 888 205 P 07 3283 1544
	Sustainable and earth friendly home and lifestyle products. From cleaning to home improvement, from the garden to personal care, to gifts, baby products, books and much more	ecoathome.com.au	P 02 9958 0412
	Environmental education and recycling services	planetark.org.au	
	Complete corrosion control	rustmasters.com.au	P 02 6654 5422
	Leaders in recycling and waste management	sita.com.au	P 13 13 35 Nationwide
	Navigation equipment, charts, training and other related items	thenavigationcentre.com.au	P 07 4772 1069
	OHS Representative/committee and various safety training	worksafecentre.com.au	P 1300 472 338 P 02 9833 7500
	Complete fire prevention and extinguishment solutions	wormald.com.au	P 133 166 Nationwide

Please feel free to contact our sponsors. Mention you heard about them from the MV Cape Don Society. If you would like to speak directly with whom we deal with, particularly with the larger companies (i.e. SITA Environmental Solutions, Wormald etc), please contact me directly.



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