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d'Amico Group SRL

The successful completion by four Irish Navy officers of a period of secondment to international shipowning group d'Amico, marks an important milestone in new and close training co-operation between the Irish Naval Service and the Italian shipping company, which manages vessels under the Irish Tonnage Tax regime, from its Dublin office.

"We are delighted that this first step in training co-operation has gone so well," commented Capt. John Dolan, General Manager of d'Amico Tankers Limited. "The primary objective was to provide the Irish Naval Service personnel with training on board our merchant vessels. The four officers were seconded to products tankers within our fleet as these vessels were considered the most appropriate, based on their size, trading schedules and cargoes carried."

"This enabled the officers to gain valuable experience in modern tanker operations, safety management and compliance, the handling of hazardous cargoes, large vessel manoeuvring and deep sea navigation," Dolan explained. "The officers were also able to meet and discuss topical issues with our senior marine and technical Group managers, Ishima Ship Management, in Singapore."

"This training partnership reflects both the d'Amico Group's and the Irish Naval Service's commitment to achieving the highest standards in vessel operations," Dolan added. "We hope that this relationship will develop further with the recent entry of d'Amico Dry into the Tonnage Tax scheme. This, in turn, represents our commitment to the maritime cluster and is consistent with promoting the Tonnage Tax scheme in Ireland to boost and retain maritime skills in the country."

Commander Martin Counihan, Commandant Naval College & Associate Head of the National Maritime College of Ireland, emphasised how useful this deployment was for both the Naval Service and the training officers embarked with d'Amico. "The sea-time and experience gained is essential to both our naval training and the achievement of shipping industry standard STCW certification. Our officers gained important practical experience on board modern merchant vessels. They were also able to better appreciate the operational routines behind the success of a first class international commercial shipping operation which manages large ocean-going tankers safely on a daily basis. This partnership has been most successful and hopefully will continue into the future".

Both d'Amico and the Irish Naval Service are keen to promote continuing co-operation between the two maritime sectors. It is likely that similar arrangements will be put in place for more naval officers in due course.



Naval Service Officers and d'Amico Group Ireland senior managers meet to review the recent shipboard training initiative for INS officers on d'Amico Tankers vessels".
(L. to R.) Capt. J. Dolan, Director, d'Amico Tankers Ltd, Lt. C. O' Seaghdha, Lt. J. Brophy, Capt. G. Oliveri, Tech Mgr, d'Amico Tankers Ltd, S. d'Amico, Fleet Manager, d'Amico Dry Lt. Cmdr D. Kirwan, Officer Training School, INS, Lt. D. Cagney, Lt. M. Devaney

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