

Meet a colleague

Cape vessel joined our fleet

Döhle Seafarer Community

Office opening in Singapore

...and many more

# Dear Colleagues,

Dear Reader,

Another year is drawing to a close and what a year it has been!

The world is changing, we are not only confronted with the beginning of the third year of war in Ukraine, but also, since 7 October, with the war in the Middle East following the barbaric actions of Hamas in Israel. And recently, the Houthi rebels have been setting fire to the Red Sea, which is frightening with all its consequences. We are doing everything we can to avoid attacks on our ships and to reach agreements with the charterers to redirect our ships. World politics is involved, but among other things, people seem to forget what all these things mean for the individual. And so, for me, the interview with Kostiantyn Petrusenko symbolises something special, the ability to make the best of a catastrophe, to not let it get you down, to have hope and to look for the better in the face of all threats and geopolitical tensions.

Life goes on despite all disasters and within this scope we have to prepare ourselves. This Christmas edition of Homeport PD impressively shows how many changes our lives have undergone in the Döhle Group in this year. Follow the journey of this issue from Hamburg via Isle of Man, Malta, Poland to Manila and Singapore and learn about some of the interesting people, our colleagues who are like all of you the backbone of our group.

One special news is that Jan Döhle, the elder son of Jochen Döhle, will join the Board of Managing Directors with effect as of 1 January 2024. He will strengthen the team with his vigour and wealth of ideas and we wish him good luck and wisdom.

As you might be aware, I have a certain preference for poems, especially from Rainer Maria Rilke, an Austrian poet (1875 - 1926), but here are only his thoughts about beginning.

You cannot awaken the feeling of the beginning in yourself often enough in life, so little external change is necessary for this, because we change the world from our heart, if it only wants to be new and immeasurable, then it is immediately as on the day of its creation and infinite.

And now let us believe in a long year that has been given to us, new, untouched, full of unprecedented things, full of work never done, full of tasks, demands and impositions; and let us see that we learn to take it without dropping too much of what it has to give to those who demand necessary, serious and great things from it. . . . Happy New Year's morning . . .

So I take the opportunity- in the name of the whole management team - to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Stay healthy and happy - may God bless you all wherever you are, wherever you go!

Yours, Gaby



# MESSAGE FROM MATTHIAS BLÖTE

## Dear Colleagues, Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the HOMEPORT PD. It is the time of the year when most people are hectic and stressed in the days leading up to Christmas. Either because of year-end business or buying last gifts. What luxury problems!

Another year has gone by so fast. Luckily, we are not talking about Corona so much anymore, but sadly, crises and conflicts are all over the world. Every day there seems to be a new threat. However we want to stay positive and remain optimistic.

Döhle Group's continuous development is certainly one reason for optimism. After a long period of struggle in the shipping industry, we can now look into the future Matthias Blöte with confidence.

Since October, I have been pleased to head the Finance, Treasury, Controlling & Corporate Development after being with the group for five years. Corporate Development was set up last year as a new team, where we amongst others look at potential investments in start-ups to add value to our industry.

Environmental issues have also been dominating our industry for some time. From the beginning 2024, shipping will be subject to the "European Union Emissions Trading System" (ETS). In summary, for every ton of fuel burned, vessels entering the EU will have to buy certain amount of CO2 certificates. One of the investments we made has been in a start-up called OceanScore. It will assist ship owners and technical managers with this upcoming ETS scheme and the management of CO2 certificates.

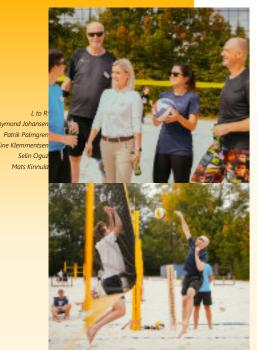
As you can see shipping stays interesting! I am convinced that there are many exciting opportunities coming to develop our corporate profile.

With unexpected snow beginning of December in Hamburg, it has been truly a winter wonderland. Christmas spirit begins. I wish I could send you some snow and some of that feeling to our worldwide offices or on board our ships. Of course, in exchange for some sunshine.

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year to you and your families!



# Newsticker



August 30th, Döhle On Assekuranzkontor had the honor of hosting their annual Beach Volleyball Tournament in Hamburg. We were thrilled to witness the tournament's increased popularity, attracting nearly 200 participants, including 110 players, all representing professionals from the global shipping and industry. Following insurance competitive matches and а memorable prize ceremony, we kept the festivities alive with delicious food, refreshing drinks, and lively dancing, leaving us all eagerly anticipating more gatherings like this in the future.







Along with other major maritime players, Döhle Group is a new shareholder in OceanScore, a data platform that primarily collects data from the shipping industry and processes it using AI-based algorithms. We are convinced that OceanScore is in an exciting and promising market environment. OceanScore is currently working on a tool that helps shipping companies to manage CO2 certificates, which will be necessary in the course of the introduction of shipping into ETS trading from January 2024. This tool supports the administration of ETS ("Emissions Trading System") trading, which will become relevant for ships calling at EU ports from 2024. OceanScore has already acquired major shipping companies as customers. As a potential customer, we are also testing the software for our fleet.

# Newsticker

Massive congratulations to our hardy walkers who braved the dreadful weather on a Sunday in September to take part in the "MFX End to End walk". The full route is 39.22 miles (or 63.12 km!) of undulating terrain, with various cut off points to add to the difficulty. Weeks of training helped to prepare them for the event in the Isle of Man.

Kudos to our colleagues Lee Murphy, Steve Noone, Caroline West, Sophie Cuthbert, Tony Bentley-Roberts, Faye Pendlebury, Sam Moore, Karen (Steve's partner), Sam Curphey and Chloe Ryles.



This year's WISTA International AGM & Conference was celebrated in October in Montevideo, the capital city of Uruguay. The conference focused on the key shipping and trading activities that make Latin America such an essential piece of the global economic. It was the first time that a WISTA International conference took place in Latin America. The German delegation was made up of the President of WISTA Germany Franziska Eckhoff, as well as Claudia

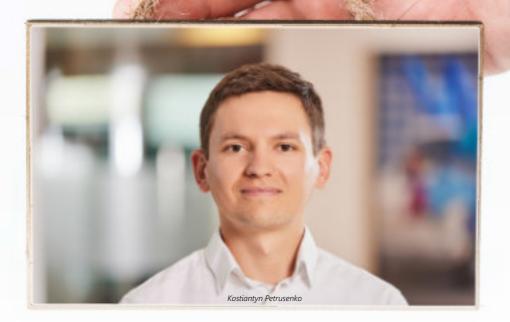
Ohlmeier (DNV) and Annette Suhrbier from Döhle Group.



# Meet a Colleague

# Kostiantyn Petrusenko

Operator Container Department at Hamburg



## What's your job at PD?

I am working in the Container Operations Department since October 2022. Due to the well-known geopolitical and sorrowful circumstances in Ukraine, my family has been forced to leave our home country. As a consequence, we turned out in Hamburg, where I started to monitor job vacancies. One day I noticed an open position in Office, tried my luck, and applied. After some appraisal interviews with the management and HR it was time for the test and trial period. And one day I got notified that I've been hired. I worked on containerships for 10 years and now have an opportunity to see the shipping industry from the other side of the coin, which complements my previous expectations. However, I have noticed that teamwork, communication, attention to details, adaptability and flexibility are essential in ship management / operations to ensure smooth and costeffective sailing.

# What are your impressions after sailing for 10 years on board container ship?

After spending 10 years on container ships, it's been quite a ride. Starting out with 19 years, everything onboard seemed huge and unknown. Especially those towering containers and ships' gadgets. It was a complete new world for me. With time every detail became more clear, and with time I slowly became a "seasoned seaman".

Facing challenges at sea taught me a lot. Storms, rough seas – we've been through a lot. But there is a thing, these tough times created strong bonds with the crew. The ship turned into more than just a workplace; it became a floating home where we share laughs and moments of solitude.

Dreams have been a big part of this journey. The ship isn't just about moving cargo; it carries dreams to new horizons. The salty air, once strange, is now like a breath of inspiration. And those sunrises and sunsets at sea? They are like daily reminders of the beauty of life on the ocean.

Taking a break in tropical places during shore leaves or even taking a day walk in the streets of Manhattan. Stepping onto shores is a chance to divert your focus and soak in different cultures. It adds a nice balance to the busy life onboard.

Reflecting in every port is like loading not only containers, but a whole bunch of memories and experience. Each harbour has its own story, making my life as a sailor pretty rich.

So, after 10 years at sea, what's my impression? It's a mix of honor and gratitude. The sea, once just a workplace, is now like a friend who has seen me through dreams, challenges, and a lot of love for the ocean. I trust you feel the same excitement and passion for this maritime life. The sea has so many stories to share and I encourage you to keep embracing its embrace with the same enthusiasm that's keep me sailing smoothly.

Now that you have experience in working onboard and in the office, what would you say are the biggest differences and why do you like shipping? With enough experience on both sides to compare (at least for myself), I would say that working in the office, especially in the Container Operations Department, means a high intensity of email communication and dealing with new special cases almost every day. Meanwhile seamen onboard are facing different kind of daily challenges, e.g stormy weathers, dealing with authorities and inspections, routine tasks and so on. And since the assignments are quite different, it's becoming difficult to compare.

As you might know, our department serves as an interface between owners and charterers, and since both parties frequently have different interests, as well as some details not clearly stipulated in charter parties, it can be really difficult to protect Owners' rights and positions. Such disputes exist in shipping for decades or even centuries, which, in my opinion, makes the this industry even more attractive. This is one of the reasons why we love it.

# What was your journey to becoming a seaman, and do you miss sailing?

Well, I guess my seafaring path started when I was a kid. My grandfather, who worked as a Chief Engineer back then, told me many stories about his experiences at sea. Upon his retirement, he started working on a tugboat in the port of Chornomorsk. When I was 16 years old, he invited me to spend a working day together, which left an indelible impression and fueled my motivation.

I miss sailing. Being and working onboard is not just about safely moving the vessel from point A to point B. It's also about the camaraderie and friendship. Some seamen say, 'We feel like a family,' spending more time together onboard than with their families. Coffee times, jokes onboard, Sunday steaks and pancakes, evening table games, and more – of course, I miss it. But we use the opportunity to visit our vessels when they are calling Hamburg or other German ports to stay connected and boost the spirit onboard.

Kostiantyn Petrusenko

# **NEW CAPE SIZE "ALBA" JOINED US IN OCTOBER.** LARGEST LADY IN OUR BULK FLEET

## We are proud to announce that my ALBA joined our fleet in October.

Takeover took place in Rizhao, China anchorage on 23rd of October. It was quite a difficult time for all of us as we had to change her Classification Society from CCS (China Classification) to RINA (Italian Naval Registry) and registration from Liberia to Portugal flag during quite a short period of time – namely three days. Such changes required full interaction of Class

and Flag Inspection – deck and engine room, all safety and monitoring equipment, ballast tanks inspection etc. However, with support of our good crew headed by our experienced Master, all went well and she received her new documents and was ready for departure on 26th of October. This nice lady is equipped with MAN B&W 6S70MC6 16,860 KW Main Engine and ContiOcean open-loop scrubber. She is eleven years old and in a good shape and ready to trade worldwide. Presently (end of October 2023) she is underway to Australia (Dampier) to load her first iron ore cargo for China.





We wish "ALBA" and her good crew a safe journey and smooth seas!

Viktor Kolisnichenko

# Malta – A second home for Döhle Corporate and Trust Services ("DCTS") since more than a decade



DCTS (Malta) Limited was established in 2012 and officially opened its doors of its new office on 16th September 2013. Based in SmartCity, close to the Grand Harbour in Valletta, the office is staffed by experienced personnel well versed in the benefits of Malta as a financial jurisdiction and corporate and fiduciary services.

As a financial centre Malta has earned a reputation as a progressive and well regulated jurisdiction and, following accession to the EU in 2004, adoption of the common Euro currency and joint monetary policies, significantly increased its attractiveness for trade. Even though Malta is "onshore" as a member of the EU, it provides many "offshore" benefits, and our services enable clients to take advantage of these benefits.

Through the years, Malta's legislators have consistently focused on providing an attractive and efficient tax system in line with EU legislation, drawing the attention superyacht acquisitions for the High Net-Worth of international investors and leading it to become a highly developed international financial centre. Despite the recent recession which has affected the entire globe, Malta kept a sound banking system and has developed strategies which not only have effectively guaranteed the survival of its economy, but have contributed to the solidification of its reputation as a major European legal, financial and corporate services provider.

In addition, Malta also offers an efficient and attractive tax regime - acknowledged to be one of the most beneficial and attractive in the EU.

The Malta office works closely with the Isle of Man business and the group headquarters in Hamburg and provides the following services:

- Company Formation and Administration
- Yachting and Shipping Services
- Aviation Services
- Accounting Services

The Malta office specialises in assistance with the set-up and administration of Ownership structures for Individual ("HNWI") and Ultra HNWI. We aim to maximise their yacht's potential by assisting and supporting clients and their advisors in the choices along yacht ownership journey with everything from setting up of structure, yacht registration and full financial management. Our team of professionals is dedicated to giving each of our clients the most professional services to ensure the best experience.

Abigail Richards



CORPORATE AND TRUST

# Döhle Marine Services Europe: Engineer Day

## There is nothing more worth than investing in young generations!

Everyone is well aware how essential it is to have a Additionally, we are honoured to have some great illustrations of devotion to Döhle family. A very striking steady flow of gualified cadets in order to build the sustainable crew network. Döhle Marine Services example is Capt. Kamil Grosser, who back in 2005 joined the group as a Deck Cadet of M/V Tessa and Europe (DMSE), as the part of Döhle Group, fully progressed up the career ladder to Captain on M/V supports and integrates values of Döhle Family. Since Hebe already in 2016. Moreover, Capt. Grosser is the very beginning of our existence, Döhle Marine currently performing as Chief Security Officer at our Services Europe has been cooperating with the leading head office in Hamburg. Another vivid example of maritime universities as a manning agency in order to outstanding loyalty is Chief Engineer Maciej ensure that the best students are welcomed to our Chmielarczyk, who is presently on board M/V Annaba family. and has been recently promoted to that rank, who On October 19, our recruitment team was invited to joined our company as Junior Engineer Cadet in 2012. take part in Engineer's Day, which was celebrated by Crew that shows commitment to the company can the leading provider of highly qualified students of benefit from further qualifications and development Gdynia Maritime University. Additionally, DMSE has prospects.

been welcomed as the only recruitment company. Such an exclusive opportunity allowed us to woo young talents and provide the best possible ways for development to our potential seafarers. During the celebration, students of Gdynia Maritime University got acquainted with Döhle Group's history and values.

As an introduction, we want to outline that our cadet program is the unique chance for young students to learn about the realities on board by being taught by exceptional professionals.



It is clear how DMSE's initiatives along with its market visibility, make the Döhle trademark recognisable.

Ultimately, DMSE is striving for excellence in educational programs and we are committed to providing the best cadets to Döhle Group. Furthermore, we are working on the representative trainings in cooperation with Szczecin University of Technology and Maritime Secondary School in Gdańsk with the aim to encourage young people to take up this demanding but very exciting job on board PD fleet.

Polina Movchan

# Meet a Colleague

# Niklas von Meyerinck

The new head of newbuilding & projects at Hamburg

Niklas von Meyerinck started in July 2023 in our Hamburg office to take over the position of Jan Görke who is now acting as Technical Director.

## Tell us something about your background.

Having lived in Hamburg almost all my life, I'm somehow bound to water and the sea. I have learned sailing on my parent's boat and am now spending nearly all of my free time sailing with my family, training on our lovely "Alster" or at least working on our boat. It was very early clear to me that I like to be an engineer. With my sailing background becoming a naval architect at Hamburg's Technical University was obvious. I spent some years as engineering consultant with some contacts as well in shipping before working in a yard for some years near Hamburg. I am presently living with my wife and our one-year-old daughter in Blankenese. While knowing various contacts at PD it was clear to me that it would be a great next step and a challenge to work in the astonishing building at Elbchaussee 370 and so far - my expectations have even been exceeded.

# What particularly appeals to you about your new job?

Coming back from "field" having worked on a smaller shipyard with totally different challenges it feels great to work in a changed atmosphere with far more colleagues (around the world) than before and facing more complex projects that you actually "can't reach" physically to review any problems. Thereby, planning and budget control is even more important but as well complex. Additionally, the level of communication is completely different to what I'm used to... having worked with only 20-30 colleagues (in one building) before.

Anyhow - biggest challenge is definitely to gain more knowledge from all the experienced people around quickly. The people I'have meet so far were great in doing this. I strongly believe that everybody of us has different knowledge and skills! Getting together,



sharing and learning from each other is the key thing. From the first moments speaking with PD contacts I had a good feeling that this is PD DNA as well.

### How were your first few weeks at PD?

Overwhelming - I came directly from my old job to the PD office - was warmly welcomed - and had a brief look at my desk ... and nearly did not need it in the first weeks. The on-boarding plan set-up for my role was nice – especially the amount of time to get into the role that was given. The first challenge: I was sent on a round trip on our MV "Calisto" together with retired former newbuilding expert Manfred Stockhaus. For 10 days he opened and showed me actually every piece of equipment on board and any possible place we could open. Honestly, I hope to be as fit as him to climb through pipe ducts, voids, and main engines after my retirement... A perfect chance to see and learn from his unbelievable experience. It was also great for him to see our good vessel - 17 years after he built her as site office manager. With the great help of our crew, we identified several areas of possible improvements, while having the chance to compare the ideas from nearly 20 years ago with our latest and running projects.

Only some days after the arrival back in Kiel I directly left to fly to Japan and China. First attending a shop test, then to meet our site teams. The original plan was to attend sea trials on one of our projects but actually due to the Taifun season we did not succeed to do so. Nevertheless, we then had the time to visit various contacts in China and get to know my colleagues in the site offices. It was nice to get the chance to see and learn before finally being integrated in our Newbuilding and Project Team in Hamburg.

Summarising the first months now it is still every morning a whooping feeling to enter the PD office day by day and to work with all the great colleagues around. I'm very happy to be part of the wonderful, open minded PD family!

# What do you see as your biggest challenge for the coming months?

To get into the role quickly, accommodate with the different persons and teams. Our team is a great mixture of people and comparably fresh at PD as (including myself) three out of seven started in the team less than half a year ago. Therefore, we need to reshape processes here and there, as well as we have new project management tools just implemented. Hence, a good point to start my role.

However, I honestly think the next months are not the big challenge... we need to think about years to come. The path for the next month seems to be clear as the team is closing down the BWTS projects and at the same time analysing and digging through the fleet to find any possible and realistic option for efficiency gains. As this is done already for years and a lot of steps are already done, it is as well time to look for smaller possible gains in terms of efficiency. With the market being flooded with multiple possible ideas for better efficiency and improvements on board it will be a challenge to pick the "good" ones.

At the same time we, for sure, can't leave the newbuildings aside. Having now, compared to the last decades "only" two site offices up and running, we are good to go for projects with available teams standing by. As PD build a up nice knowledge base there – the teams are long term contracted until 2026 with external supervision. Anyhow – the biggest challenge is without any doubt: How a new vessel should look like in the next 25 years.

# Which projects you have run so far you keep in good memories?

There are a lot of them - I will never forget the moment standing on a bridge wing of a container vessel docked in "Dock 11" at Hamburg's Blohm & Voss shipyard, opposite and "above" of Hamburgs inner city centre during my first job after finishing university. Maybe the moment when I decided by myself to work in shipping at some point – in the end it took several more years to come.

But actually most of the great things are more on the "private" projects, when being boat captain for an

offshore racing project for a transatlantic crossing on a 46ft racing yacht with 21 years. I will never forget the beauty of the sea and the wild life seen during the race but as well the power and roughness the oceans can create.

A thing I'm particular proud of – my great memories to the successful and great times I spent being part of our Sailing League Team (for Deutsche Segelbundesliga and Sailing Championsleague) for more than 10 years, winning national and international titles multiple times. The great team we created there, the "standard" level of communication and skills of over more than 30 people is still phenomenal. Actually, we now handed over there to a new generation of younger team members, but still stepping in when they need a helping hand.

For sure the biggest emotional projects are always family and we are more than proud that our daughter is already doing here first steps on our own boat sailing on the Baltic.

## Are there as well not so good ones?

For sure – 8 years ago seeing a repair yard denying modern techniques and at the same time washing the whole blasting grit to the ocean... this with a team of very proud Austrians technicians speaking only barely English who should work together with some nice guys from Malaysia... interesting set up! In the end we managed, but for sure it was a nightmare to get all egos aligned, while keeping time and budget. As a result I was very keen to seen the yards and teams PD work with today and was delighted to see the environmental and safety standards implemented on our vessels, the shipyards we work with and our teams.

Niklas von Meyerinck



# ENRICHING AN INCLUSIVE **PD SEAFARER COMMUNITY** IN THE PHILIPPINES

MANILA, Philippines - The Döhle Group, with its Philippine manning arm Döhle Seafront, celebrated the 2023 Döhle National Family Day on November 17th, bringing together seafarers and their families for a day of camaraderie, learning, and support. The event, held at Döhle Haus Manila, was a resounding success, with over 170 attendees from all over the country.



Peter Döhle Schiffarts-KG Managing Director Johann Diercks expressed his appreciation for its Filipino crew's dedication, expertise, resilience, and loyalty which have been "instrumental in the Group's success."

"We are committed to strengthening our Filipino community of seafarers and families, ensuring that they continue to play a vital role in our company's future," stated Diercks.

# CONNECTING FAMILIES AND STRENGTHENING BONDS

one reports so often when on vacation.

"My family and I are grateful to the whole Döhle management for giving them a chance to take a glimpse of my office and meet our big bosses who made the company successful," shared one of the attendees, 21-year PD crew Chief Officer Gregorio Wendam.





A day before the program, a building tour for the crew families kick-started the family activities. Led by select Döhle Seafront staff, the tour took place simultaneously with the PD Seafarer Seminar. Parents, kids, and spouses visited each department and the world-class facilities of the building, showing them where and whom their loved

Afterward, the attendees were treated to a lively "social night" with an open bar and delectable buffet dinner. During the event, loyalty awardees were celebrated:

| CE Jesus Masi, Jr.  |  |
|---------------------|--|
| CM Gregorio Wendam  |  |
| CE David Bernados   |  |
| CM Jomel Andrada    |  |
| Capt. Sherwin Cinco |  |
| 2M Ranie Manus      |  |

CE Albert Molino CM Noel Paje 2M John Villasanta Capt. Jose Mari Madriaga

2E Henry Salonga

CM Joselito Ilagan

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# A DAY FOR THE FAMILY

Ringing ice cream bells (traditional Filipino sorbet) and a hot morning Filipino staple Taho (soft tofu with syrup and sago) welcomed the attendees to the much-awaited National Family Day. Mental health

and physical wellness discussions, a recurring topic on all the Döhle Seafront Family Hub gatherings all over the country, were curated by Döhle Seafront for the crew, spouses, and the crew's parents at the Galley.



In another room, the children had special activities and a party with their favorite Filipino mascot Jollibee. With them were diligent office staff, playing and making sure all their needs were well-attended while mommy and daddy were away.



Second Officer Sidney Pura expressed his gratitude for the event's thoughtful organization and the care shown to the children. He commended the staff for their dedication to ensuring the safety and happiness of the children.

Our office-based partners that were in charge of babysitting our children were superb, ensuring our kids were safe and happy. They were also extra attentive to those who needed a guardian to go on potty breaks while making sure all kids were on-site. The thoughtfully chosen food and the entertainment plan was a hit, keeping the kids engaged and ensuring they had an enjoyable time.

The heartwarming affair successfully concluded with crew and family members expressing their gratitude for the opportunity to connect with the Döhle Seafront team and their co-workers at sea.

According to long-time PD seafarer and master mariner Capt. Sherwin Cinco, company-driven family-oriented programs are "significant events that shouldn't be missed."

"It is an awe-inspiring experience and a unique engagement where we have the chance to see new and former colleagues from our previous vessels, and allow our families to meet and even bond just like normal families, and share varied insights of having a seafarer in the family," he shared.



Rainiel Dc.Cruz





# HERE'S WHAT OTHER ATTENDEES HAVE TO SAY:

## A Delight For The Whole Family

"It was a pleasure to be invited. From the food and accommodation to the office tour, meeting office staff, and the program, it was a pleasure for my wife and kids and me as a crew." - Evelio Geca, third engineer.

## Beyond Employment - Overall, 10 out of 10!

"I value the program's longstanding success and its comprehensive assistance in health and finances for families of seafarers. I express my gratitude to our company as it doesn't only provide employment but also integrates our families into this exceptional program." - Wiljohn Sale, third officer and his wife.

## **Building Memories, Creating Bonds**

"It was my first ever family-oriented experience in my 18 years of sailing. It was wonderful to have the rest of my family included in the program. PD is not only building memories but also creating bonds with our families. My family and I are grateful for this extraordinary experience." - Jeff Bait, chief officer.

## Improves Work-Life Balance

"The Döhle Crew Seminar and Family Day was a memorable experience for me and my family. [Such activities] improve our work-life balance and help create interpersonal relationships among colleagues. "I look forward for more years to celebrate with the company." - Rommel Daitol, third officer.





ERNST RUSS SHIPBROKERS GmbH & Co. KG (ERS) was established on 1st August 2013 by merging the broking activities of ERNST RUSS GmbH & Co. KG, feeder activities (upto 1400 TEU) of Peter Döhle Schiffahrts KG and broking activities of Stüwe & Co. Schiffahrts GmbH & Co. KG. Each of the partners, by themselves, were long established and individually successful companies and formed a broking house with a background of decades of history and experience.

Since then, ERS has firmly established itself as a trusted provider of chartering and sale & purchase broking services, ship valuation, research and postfix services, covering a diverse range of vessels - including container ships, multipurpose vessels, roro vessels, reefer ships, and bulk carriers from coasters to handymax size. With a staff of 25 employees, ERS is well positioned to support interests in todays and future markets. Apart from the traditional brokerage services, we have during the last two years greatly built on our regulatory expertise, allowing us to offer services and consultancy for charterers and shipowners on the EU ETS and CII schemes.

The trio steering the ship at Ernst Russ Shipbroker are Kenneth Mahler, Maik Putzer, and Christoph Döhle. Kenneth's seasoned expertise, Maik's infusion of fresh

ideas as the recent addition, and Christoph Döhle's enduring customer trust create a special leadership dynamic. Together, they chart a course to take on future challenges. Embarking on a journey of rejuvenation and growth, ERS has in recent years added two junior brokers in the multipurpose/dry cargo chartering department to capitalize on ERS's well-known name in this very active market segment. With innovative solutions and a forward-thinking approach, ERS aims to guide an emerging new generation of ship owners in the maritime domain both in terms of newbuilding tonnage as well as retrofitting existing tonnage in order to keep the competitive advantage between the parties.

Last year's office relocation to the Döhle headquarters at the Elbchaussee marked an important transformation, enhancing synergy and communication within the group of companies. The former Döhle employees already knew what to expect from the amazing office facilities and now the whole team enjoys working in the open office space. The cafeteria and fitness opportunities are also greatly appreciated and definitely drive the motivation of all employees.

Maik Putzer

# The year 2023 has seen another new office opening for the wider Döhle Group



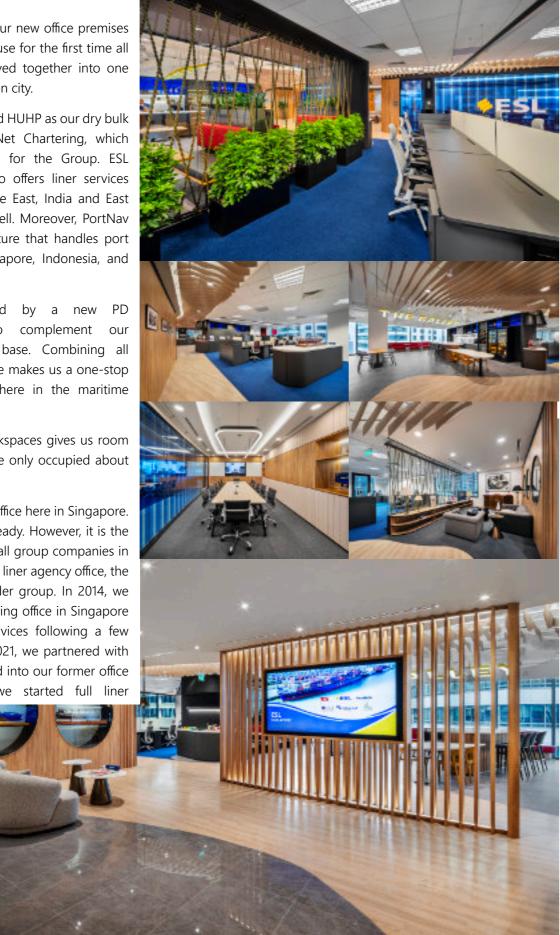
In July, we have moved into our new office premises in Singapore. A premier, because for the first time all Döhle Group companies moved together into one integrated office here in the lion city.

So far, these are Döhle Bulk and HUHP as our dry bulk operators as well as Blue Net Chartering, which handles container chartering for the Group. ESL (Emirates Shipping Line), who offers liner services between East Asia, the Middle East, India and East Africa, joins in the office as well. Moreover, PortNav Marine Agencies, a joint venture that handles port and marine agencies in Singapore, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

This will soon be joined by a new PD Shipmanagement outfit to complement our Hamburg shipmanagement base. Combining all these services within one office makes us a one-stop shop for maritime services here in the maritime centre of Singapore.

The capacity of about 80 workspaces gives us room for further growth, as we have only occupied about 65% of the space so far.

Of course, this is not our first office here in Singapore. In fact, it is our sixth office already. However, it is the first office where we combine all group companies in one. In 2008, ESL set up a local liner agency office, the first local office within the wider group. In 2014, we launched our first bulk chartering office in Singapore with container chartering services following a few years later in early 2018. In 2021, we partnered with PortNav Agencies, who moved into our former office premises. In early 2023, we started full liner



operations with ESL. At that time, we were located in different part of the city and now we are happy to have moved to the city centre into a building called "PLUS", which perfectly illustrates our motivation and positive mindset.

What makes Singapore such an ideal location for us? Singapore has always been associated with our industry. In fact, the first people to settle in Singapore did so because of its great location for overseas trade. According to archaeologists, Singapore was a thriving trading port more than 500 years ago. Today, there are approximately 1,000 vessels in the port of Singapore – at any given time! In terms of container handling alone, Singapore is currently the second busiest port in the world and is home to one of the highest concentrations of international shipping groups and maritime service providers. With such a huge impact, the maritime industry employs over 170,000 people and accounts for approximately 7% of the country's GDP.

In September, we held our official office opening party, inviting customers, partners, and colleagues from all around the globe. The party was a great success and helped put us once again on everyone's radar and leave a lasting impression, especially here in the local maritime community of which we are now more than ever a vital member.



We see our new office as a place for collaboration and cooperation, not only with clients and business partners, but also and especially with our colleagues. We regularly see colleagues from all over the world in our office, both from land and sea. We look forward to keeping this spirit alive and growing. So, if you are in Singapore for business or pleasure, or even just for a stopover, please feel free to pop by any time. We are looking forward having you here.

All the best!

Jost Döhle



## **Meet a Colleague - Interview with Niklas Garst**

Corporate Development, Peter Döhle Schiffahrts-KG

## How old are you?

I am 28 years old.

## Where were you born?

I was born in Ludwigshafen at the river Rhine in southern Germany.

## What education have you completed?

I completed my bachelor's in mechanical engineering in Mannheim and subsequently earned my master's in industrial engineering with a focus on finance an serice close to Hamburg.

## Why did you choose the shipping industry?

The shipping industry captivates me due to its global significance and diverse challenges. It combines technical aspects from my mechanical engineering studies with economic and financial components that I delved into during my Master's program.

# In which department do you work, and what are your responsibilities?

I work in Corporate Development, where I support technical projects exploring future technologies in the shipping industry. My responsibilities include investigating initiatives that deal with breakthrough advances and supporting the decision making process to help Döhle Group on the path to innovative solutions and sustainable growth.

## Since when have you been playing hockey?

I have been playing hockey since the age of 6, starting in Ludwigshafen. I then played for Mannheim, and for the past five years, I have been a part of the Hamburger Polo Club.

# Since when have you been playing in higher leagues or in the national team?

I have been playing in the Bundesliga since I turned 18. Before that, I went through all youth national teams and regional association teams.

# What does an Olympic participation mean for an athlete or for you?

Olympic participation means the fulfilment of a childhood dream and the opportunity to compete on the biggest sporting stage with the best in the world – in an environment that is unparalleled.



Niklas with young fans

# How fierce is the competition for a spot in the team?

The competition for a spot on the team is extremely intense, as only the best players get the chance to prove themselves on the international stage. It requires rigorous training, determination, and the willingness to go beyond one's limits.

## How much time do you dedicate to sports, and how do you balance it with your profession?

Currently, I dedicate approximately 12 hours of pure training time per week. This is in addition to games, travel time, and treatments with physiotherapists. Balancing it is achievable through effective time management, discipline, and the support of an understanding employer who provides the flexibility to pursue my passion for sports.

Niklas Garst

# CYBERSECURITY: A PERSONAL AND BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY

I'm Mikhail Joseph Salviejo, your go-to Fleet IT Specialist at Doehle Shipmanagement Phils., Corp. in Manila. With a knack for resolving IT issues and a passion for cybersecurity, I'm one of the contact person for IT-related queries on-board. My experience spans from being an IT Support Administrator at Odfjell Ship Management Philippines, Inc. to an Assistant System Administrator at ROHM LSI Design Philippines, Inc. I'm all about ensuring secure, efficient, and virus-free working environments! Regarding cybersecurity, the key aspects of my role are to ensure compliance with Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and manage aspects of cybersecurity in my workspace, to communicate internal and external cyber risk opportunities for proper assessment and resolution and to promote Cyber Security awareness amongst seafarers, facilitating a secure digital environment.

Cybersecurity is not just a business concern. It's a personal responsibility that everyone should take seriously. Here's why:

**1. Protection of Sensitive Data** Whether it's your personal photos, bank details, or work documents, we all have sensitive data that we want to keep private. By practicing good cybersecurity, you can ensure that your sensitive data is protected from cyber threats.

**2. Detection and Response to Attacks** Cyber-attacks can happen to anyone. With good cybersecurity practices, you can detect these attacks early and respond effectively, minimizing the damage.

**3. Prevention of Unauthorized Access** Cybersecurity measures like strong passwords and two-factor authentication can prevent unauthorized access to your accounts. This means you can use the internet with peace of mind, knowing that your accounts are secure. In conclusion, cybersecurity is not just a business concern. It's a personal responsibility that everyone should take seriously. By practicing good cybersecurity, we can all contribute to making the internet a safer place. Remember, the internet is a shared space, and we all have a role to play in keeping it secure.

# Now, let's delve into some best practices for businesses:

# 1. Adhere to Company IT Policies

Every company should have a comprehensive IT policy in place, often referred to as a Cybersecurity Management System (CSM). This policy outlines the rules and guidelines for using the company's IT resources. It's essential to familiarize yourself with these policies and follow them strictly.

# 2. Use Strong Passwords

A strong password is your first line of defense against cyber threats. It should be complex, with a mix of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters. Avoid using easily guessable information like birthdays or names.

# 3. Lock Computers and Log Out of Applications

Always lock your computer when you step away from it, even for a short time. Similarly, log out of applications and programs when you're done using them. This practice prevents unauthorized access to your data. Your operational network and automated systems are crucial for your business operations. Protect them with firewalls, intrusion detection systems, and regular security audits.

## 4. Be Cautious with Emails and Links

Phishing attacks often come in the form of emails with malicious links. Be wary of emails from unknown senders and avoid clicking on suspicious links. If you're unsure about an email, contact your IT department.

## **5. Use Approved Software**

Only use software that has been approved by your company for business use. Unauthorized software can pose security risks and potentially lead to data breaches.

# 6. Avoid Non-Business USB Devices

USB devices can carry malware. Avoid using USB devices that are not intended for business use on your work computer.

# 7. Regularly Update Software

Software updates often include security patches that fix vulnerabilities. Ensure that your software is always up to date to protect against the latest threats.

# 8. Back Up Files Regularly

Regularly backing up your files ensures that you can recover your data in case of a cyber-attack or system failure. Use a secure and reliable backup solution.

# 9. Protect Operational Network and Automated Systems

By following these practices, you can significantly enhance your company's cybersecurity posture and protect your valuable data and systems from cyber threats. Remember, cybersecurity is not a one-time

effort but a continuous process that requires vigilance and commitment.

Mikhail Joseph Salviejo



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