



# MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN

June 2015

Dear seafarers!

Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine takes care of you and your families not only when you are ashore, but while you are in the seas.

In order to keep you informed about our work, we develop this monthly E-BULLETIN which tells you about all the activities and events conducted by our Union.

We're always happy to get feedback from you – any suggestions or proposals are welcome!

Yours sincerely,  
Oleg Grygoriuk  
First Vice Chairman



## MTWTU seminar for seafarers

Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine held another regular seminar for seafarers – trade union members. This time the main topic of the seminar was health of seafarers. Thus, the issue of accumulative fatigue was raised, which is a big problem for seafarers due to their working schedule of 4-6 months or even longer. Seafarers have filled in the survey on how they spend their holidays. The survey data will be processed by Vladislava Golikova, PhD, Associate Professor, Senior Researcher in Odessa National Maritime Academy, Ukrainian Research Institute of Transport Medicine, and will be published in MTWTU media resources.

Yekaterina Prihodko, Associate Professor of Department of Life Safety, Odessa National Maritime Academy, have discussed with the seafarers the main directions of security development, causes of accidents on board, and ways to minimize the risks.

Another vital topic that has been discussed on the seminar was registration of sick leave of seafarers during illness or injury on board. These and other issues related to the health of seafarers were revealed by Nataliya Yefrimenko, the ITF Inspector in Ukraine. She reported on the level of compensations which are supposed to be paid to seafarers under ITF and MTWTU collective agreements and answered the questions.

But probably the main question of interest of seafarers and their wives was the new restrictions

of the National Bank of Ukraine, which are planned to be introduced in the near future. In place of the old, more stringent limits, the National Bank promises to introduce more loyal limitations. Karina Vershinina from Sergeyevs' Law Office, has reported on these future innovations.

Through the seminar the seafarers asked many questions, which were immediately and qualifiedly answered by the speakers. It's worth mentioning that seafarers and their spouses, who were as well invited to the seminar, are interested not only in entertaining events, but also in the information ones.



## MTWTU basketball team finished the season

Seafarers' profession, among other things, requires endurance, hardening and good health. That's why physical training of seafarers is that important, especially during the period between voyages. In order to promote a healthy lifestyle and maintain physical fitness of seafarers, MTWTU together with charitable foundation of maritime transport MORTRANS have organized a basketball team of seafarers – members of MTWTU.

The team that took the name of its Union, successfully played in the game season in Odessa basketball league, among another teams representing enterprises, organizations and industrial structures. Young, but a cohesive MTWTU team even managed to get into the playoffs, but, because of seafarer's profession specifics, the team could not get any further – a lot



of players have gone to the voyage. However, the Trade Union is grateful to all the players for their interest and for a great game. Also, we will be glad to see the new players in the next game season.



### **Trade unions protect the constitutional rights of citizens**

On June 3, 2015, under the walls of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, a meeting was held in the framework of the unions' picketing the Government in support of the demands of the collective labor dispute with the government and employers. This is the second stage of the action in support of trade union demands. The action was attended by more than 1,000 representatives of trade unions of workers of agro-industrial complex, health, educators, social workers, the Pension Fund, the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, miners, railway workers, representatives of the regional trade union organizations from the Cherkasy and Vinnitsa regions. Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine took an active part in the picketing. Employees of enterprises, organizations and institutions of maritime transport of Ukraine took part in the action in their free time.



### **The Union has shown the Tomorrowland**

Especially for the seafarers – MTWTU members and for their families, the Union has organized a private screening of the movie Tomorrowland. Such screenings are organized by MTWTU on a regular basis, and seafarers are looking forward to meet again in the cinema. For them it is not just a way to spend time with the families, but also to communicate with their colleagues..



### **International Children's Day with the Union**

For the International Children's Day MTWTU, the Local Black Sea Trade Union Organization of Seafarers and charitable foundation of maritime transport MORTRANS have organized a delightful holiday for seafarers' children. Children were met by the fairy-tale characters and lots of game machines and amusement. A show program was as well organized for the kids, and the culmination of the holiday was a huge cake! In addition, all the kids received interesting gifts from the Union.

While the children were entertaining, their parents communicated with their colleagues and trade union representatives.

A feast for the children was a success!

