



CYPRUS SHIPPING CHAMBER

CSC “Adopt a Ship” Programme



Programme Guide

Programme History

The “Adopt a Ship” Programme was initiated by the Cyprus Shipping Chamber in 2006 to bring together the Elementary Schools and Seafarers on board CSC Members ships in order to provide a real world learning experience for elementary school children.

The Cyprus Shipping Chamber is the trade association of the Shipping Industry in Cyprus. Having witnessed considerable growth since its establishment in January 1989, with originally seventeen Founding Members, the Chamber today comprises all the major shipowning, shipmanagement, chartering and shipping related companies based in Cyprus. Today, the Chamber’s Member-companies located in Cyprus and the wider Shipping Sector in Cyprus, collectively employ around 4500 persons ashore and more than 55,000 seafarers of various nationalities onboard their vessels.

The main purpose of the Chamber is:

“...promoting the interests of Cyprus Shipping and furthering the reputation of the Cyprus flag, whilst promoting and protecting the interests of its Members both nationally and internationally...”

The Programme runs under the full approval of the Cyprus Ministry of Transport Communications and Works and the Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture, the latter also authorized the Chamber to approach and invite elementary schools to participate in the Programme.

The Programme involves assigning to elementary schools’ classrooms a particular vessel each for direct email communication between the children and the crew of the vessel with the aim to inform the children about life onboard, cargoes carried by ships, trading patterns and geography. This exchange of correspondence helps also to raise the image of shipping, its important contribution to the global trade and economy.

Since the beginning of the Programme, and through the valuable cooperation with the Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association (CYMEPA), who are responsible for the administration of the Programme, more than 400 classes in total, from 80 schools across Cyprus, have participated in the Programme. Furthermore, Member-Companies of the Cyprus Shipping Chamber have assigned ships of different types, ranging from bulk carriers to containers and tankers for the purposes of the Programme.

In 2014, following a drawing competition among participating classes, the logo of the Programme, as shown on the cover page was chosen.

**Cyprus Shipping Chamber
April 2016**

Operation of the Programme

The Programme is initiated by the Chamber at the beginning of every school year in September as follows:

1. A Letter and an Application Form (Annex) is sent to all primary schools island-wide inviting them to express interest in participating in the Programme.
2. At the same time a circular is sent to the Chamber Members inviting them to provide ships for the Programme.
3. Once the number of ships is known each ship is matched with a school class.
4. The company provides the name and contact details of the officer onboard who will follow up the communication with the class. Usually this is the Master or the Chief Officer or the Second Officer.
5. The Chamber provides to each class a world map to help the class monitor the routes of the adopted ship.
6. Each participating school is awarded with a small ship model (photo) with 6 “containers” to affix a sticker for every year of the school’s participation in the Programme.
7. Each participating teacher is awarded with a Participation Certificate at the end of the academic year at an event hosted at the offices of one of the Chamber Members.
8. The Master and Crew of each participating vessel are awarded with a Participation Certificate at the end of the academic year.
9. During the year companies participating in the Programme organize visits to their offices of the school classes that “adopted” their ships. During the visits the children are introduced to the company, by a senior member of the company staff, they watch a short film about international shipping, produced by the International Chamber of Shipping, watch a short film about the marine life and protection of the marine environment around Cyprus, compete between them by completing a short multiple choice quiz based on the films they have watched, they are shown ship models and are taken on guided tour of the company.

During this period CYMEPA, who administer the Programme, remains the contact point for the school and the company in case any assistance may be needed.

Conclusion

The “Adopt a Ship” Programme has proven to be a very successful part of the general Public Relations Campaign, of the Cyprus Shipping Chamber and it is now included in the educational programmes of elementary schools.

The Programme is met with great excitement by both participating schools, their teachers and the students, and by the companies and the ships’ crews.

It is hoped that this early interaction of the children with the shipping company and the ships will encourage the young generation to consider primarily a seafaring career or a career in shipping ashore.

ADOPT-A-SHIP

In this voluntary Programme a class of the Elementary School “adopts” a ship with the aim to communicate with the ship’s crew and get to know each other through weekly email communication.

THE TEACHER:

1. Is responsible for the communication.
2. Receives the details of the ship and informs his class.
3. Informs the ship about the class, the school etc.
4. Communicates with the ship once a week.
5. Informs the class about the ship’s news.
6. If the ship calls a Cyprus port, arranges a visit to the ship

PARTICIPATION FORM

TEACHER’S NAME:

SCHOOL NAME:

ADDRESS:

SCHOOL PHONE:

TEACHER’S PHONE:

E-MAIL:

CLASS:

HEADMASTER:

HEADMASTER’S SIGNATURE: