

SAFETY DELTA NEWSLETTER - JULY 2023

Stress management strategies for a safe - and happy - ship and office

"If stress burned calories, I'd be a supermodel," goes a popular quote. Raise your hand if you can relate!

As a seafarer on board or a shore-based staff, you have a lot to handle. The demanding workload, language barriers, and cultural differences (to name a few) are inevitable. And sometimes, you might feel like there's nothing you can do about stress.

The truth is we have a lot more control over stress than we might think. But the key is to treat stress management as a *collective responsibility* rather than an individual load.



Welfare of one, welfare of all

On board, where a high level of stress can bring a high level of safety hazards, stress management must be a team effort.

There must be a *strong sense of community* where everyone - especially leaders - cares to cultivate a safe and happy ship. After all, one person's well-being has a ripple effect on others.

The shore staff and the company are equally important players in this effort. When you prioritise well-being, you also build a remarkable reputation and therefore attract and retain top-notch employees and crew.

Safety Delta Learning Library (SDLL) tip:

Check out the <u>Stress management</u> <u>animation</u> to learn more about the roles of leaders, shore staff, and the company in managing stress on board.



From distress to de-stress

Below are some coping strategies to manage stress.



Read the <u>Stress management brief in the SDLL</u> to learn more about these strategies.

Meanwhile, in this newsletter, we want to highlight the time management strategy.

Time pressure is a common stressor on board that can lead to rest hour violations and shortcuts in safety procedures.

One way you can handle it is by using the *prioritisation technique* to identify which tasks you need to focus on first based on importance and urgency.

But there is another tool that lets you have a 'broader' approach - one that involves all input from everyone at all times.

Work structure and risk management

A proper work structure helps crew members avoid unnecessary stress associated with time constraints. It ensures that tasks are planned and implemented with a clear picture of who does what and when and where to avoid confusion.

The *three-phase risk management* is a powerful tool for this. Its efficiency lies in involving everyone, all the time (before, during, and after every job).

It creates a collaborative environment where all - regardless of rank - are included in the planning, reviewing, and using the lessons learned.

Safety Delta Learning Library (SDLL) tip:

Check out the <u>Three-phase risk</u> management animation to learn about the key actions in this process such as the *toolbox talk* and *work debrief*, which help you execute your tasks more efficiently.



Inspiring case

The only things we can improve are the things we talk about.

One of the improvement areas that we saw in the previous annual Safety Delta reports was the crew's experience of time pressure on the job.

What's interesting is that, after it was pointed out in the reports, we saw an improvement in the latest reports.

This only proves that if you talk about the problems, you can and you will find solutions.

Other fun stress management techniques

X Laughter yoga

Want to try out an unusual - but surely fun - exercise with your colleagues?

Check out this short video where Liliana DeLeo teaches laughter yoga in a very energetic and fun way! We think you'll enjoy the "brain wash" and "mental floss" exercises.

TRIVIA:

There's a saying in laughter yoga - "Fake it till you make it." But whether laughter is real or fake, it *doesn't* matter because our body makes no distinction! We experience the benefits either way.

K Cultural stress management exercises

Do you have colleagues from other cultures? Bond with them by exploring their local stress management practices, such as Chinese tai chi, Indian yoga, or anything that you can incorporate into your daily routines.

Crew spotlight

Shout-out to **TORM New Zealand** and **TORM Signe** for implementing stress-relieving activities on board such as tournaments, parties, and celebrations. Read more about their **#SafetyDeltaMoments** <u>here (TORM New Zealand)</u> and <u>here (TORM Signe)</u>.





Client anniversary



Got questions or thoughts about today's newsletter?

We're all ears! We have a team of real people here (no bots hiding behind screens) who are eager to hear from you! So send us a message at safety.delta@green-jakobsen.com.ph and we promise to keep everything confidential and respond to you.

Want to suggest a topic?

Let's make Among Us more relevant to you. If there's a topic you'd like us to cover in the next issues, send us a message at safety.delta@green-jakobsen.com.ph.

Want to read past issues of Among Us?

<u>Catch up on the previous issues here</u> to gain new learnings and read inspiring stories.

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