

# MAILBOX

## HONEST COMMENTARY Thome Ship Management Pte Ltd

SIR. The community of independent ship managers around the world is changing at a faster pace than ever before. As more quality services are demanded by our principals, every manager seeks ways of improving performance and creating extra value for our valued customers. One of the ways in which we can achieve this is by improving our information flows within our own companies and in the wider marketplace. Good quality information for ship managers is vital as it helps us make better decisions for the benefit of our principals. In areas such as new technology, telecommunications, education and training and technical services, today's successful ship manager needs to be fully aware of developments that often take place rapid-



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ly. That is why Thome Ship Management was delighted to hear about the launch of Ship Management International magazine.

As proactive members of the InterManager Group, Thome is delighted to acknowledge the first publication dedicated solely to the independent, third-party shipmanagement sector – an increasingly important sector in world shipping today. We believe this new magazine will provide the market with a much-needed clear and honest commentary on global shipmanagement trends and will act as a truly independent voice in an industry in which independence becomes ever more important.

We look forward to seeing Ship Management International become established as the premier publication serving the entire shipmanagement community all over the world. As a forward-looking manager at the forefront of many of the exciting new trends in shipmanagement, Thome welcomes the launch of Ship Management International.”

**Olav Eek Thorstensen,  
CEO and President, Thome Ship Management, Singapore**

## PROACTIVE ENGAGEMENT Stephen Chapman

SIR. The need for self-regulation of the shipmanagement industry with verification rather than following the demands of a compliance culture are the driving forces behind InterManager's KPI initiative. The processes of self-regulation need uniform measurement criteria.

While it is important that shipmanagers are able to agree on a standard for operational KPIs that gives a representative picture of the quality of a ship's operational performance; is limited in number; is transparent and is economic to collect, there is a clear need to engage with the regulators in a more pro-active way. So many changes in rules are coming from the IMO and elsewhere today that the only way forward is to join forces on a broad front and use the combined resources of all concerned to ensure that the practitioners' viewpoint is not missing from the legislative process. Currently, there are huge gaps between the discus-



**Moulding this fine industry in the way that's best for it.**

sions and decisions taken at policy conferences and in policy making bodies and what actually goes on at sea. InterManager sees its agreements and relationships with BIMCO, INTERCARGO and INTERTANKO as essential in heading-off increasingly reactive, knee jerk and politically inspired regulation. So we ask the shipping industry in general and the shipmanagement sector in particular to put their support behind our KPI initiative so we can start helping to mould this fine industry in the way that's best for it.

**Stephen Chapman  
General Secretary  
InterManager**