**Subject: Safety Culture and Occupational Health & Safety Management**

Dear Client,

We have identified before an increase in lost time injury crew accidents especially for non- deck and engine crew and request our Clients’ support with hotel operations and concessions and with other third parties for a campaign to reduce work related hazardous occurrences.

In order to further engage health and safety management into all aspects of our activities and to reinforce our reputation as a responsible and proactive business partner, we have integrated the **Occupational Health & Safety Management** **Standard** (OHSAS18001) into our Management System for your ship(s) managed by V.Ships Leisure.

OHSAS 18001 is a management system standard that is complimentary to the clause structure of ISO 14001. The ISO 9001 standard and the ISM Code will be also effective on board your ship(s). It is a proactive “Plan-Do-Check-Act” process that identifies and manages risk to prevent work related injuries and the costs associated with them.

OHSAS 18001 aims to:

* Minimise risks to health and safety
* Provide competitive advantage and improved business performance
* Enhance reputation and image as a responsible company
* Assist company compliance with legal requirements
  + Improve overall business performance, with the goal of an accident-free workplace

Other reported benefits to seafarers and to the bottom line of participating organisations:

* Decrease in overall costs of crew (and pax) accidents
* Reduction in downtime and associated costs
* Reduction in accidents report administration costs
* Decrease in insurance premiums
* Reduced claims, penalties and prosecutions
* Improved reputation and stakeholder satisfaction
* Improved seafarer morale leading to increased performance
* Improved communication and training
* Greater involvement and commitment from crew & management leading to **improved** **safety culture.**

The additional requirements of the OHSAS18001 standard focus on:

* Systematic hazard identification process for acts, situations and sources of potential harm
* Enhanced risk assessments for better control of identified hazards
* Prioritisation of the identified hazards and risks
* Clear objectives for ongoing improvement
* Consultation with and participation of the workforce in all OHS matters
* Regular management review of the OHS system with analysis of effectiveness and resources

An improved safety culture will benefit everyone onboard, including passengers, and promote heightened safety perception & values leading to fewer unsafe acts and conditions & fewer accidents.

OHSAS18001 is evidence that Owners and Operators take safety to a new level, beyond compliance.

Protecting health and the environment is everyone’s job and we look forward to your support in the implementation of the OHSAS 18001 on your vessel(s) and your assistance with the engagement of contracted hotel and concession operations and other third parties.

With sincere thanks

V.Ships Leisure