



JANUARY 2025

Vol. 2



**"The sea may change its course without warning, but our dedication remains steadfast."**



Head Office: Mumbai

Regional Offices: Chennai, New Delhi, Vizag, Kochi, Mundra, Rakkar, Bhubaneshwar, Chandigarh

## Message from CEO



*Dear VRM Seafarers and Families*

*Year 2024 has been very kind to us, our Seafarers, and their families. We saw our Owners growing and securing more ships. Sonika and I travelled a lot to Ship Owners and Ships. VRM office staff visited many ships. Joining of Mr Praveen C Shukla as Managing Director of VR Marine Services Pte Ltd Singapore has helped us to sustain and increase the crewing business. He is also reviewing many processes to improve our operational efficiency.*

*Presently we have 162 Office staff, 9 offices in India and we are doing 177 Ship's crew management, whereby some ships have complete crew and some have only handful VRM Seafarers onboard. Our pool strength is 3058 Seafarers from India and 315 from other nations. We are proud of see retention rate of 91% this year and 89% of our Seafarers completed contract. We promoted 512 Seafarers this year, nice to see 18 Ratings becoming Officers after acquiring CoC. we honoured 418 Seafarers in our office, and we gave employment to many young fresher Seafarers whose father / first relatives are working in our company for more than 5 Years.*

*We had challenges also, especially for ships transiting red sea. We are happy to see no incident on our ships during transit. Good Safety practices onboard helped us secure 100% good health sign off record. ZERO legal cases against VRM and Zero Seafarer's Grievances shows bonding between our Ship Owners, VRM Office and our Seafarers.*

*Our Training Dept has now added Mental Wellbeing course for Seafarers in addition to Owner's specific requirements such as ECDIS, Hazmat, BRM, ERM, Practical Marine Electrical Workshop, Safety Onboard etc. I am happy to announce that we shall have bigger Training facilities in year 2025 with more Owner's and vessel specific short courses for our Seafarers.*

*Three departments were added this year in our office:*

- a) Birthday Cake dept (Mumbai HO)*
- b) Trainee Officers (Cadets, TME) Placement dept at Chandigarh office*
- c) Dept for Pre-Employment Medical Exam & Onboard all medical cases at Chandigarh Office*

*The results are very encouraging.*

- a) I am happy that we celebrated 1025 Seafarers Birthdays this year (started from May 2024) by sending special Cakes and our wishes to families of our Seafarers.*
- b) All our Cadets and TMEs who passed exams were placed within 20 days of acquiring CoC as 3rd Officers and 4th Engineers. Next year we expect 90% of our 3rd Officers and 4th Engineers from VRM pool itself. We have to rely less on market. TS Rahaman remains or approved Maritime Training Institute for all Pre Sea-Training courses.*
- c) Stringent medicals and knowing past medical history of Seafarers has resulted in reducing medical sign off cases to 1% this year. We do quarterly meetings with 14 approved Doctors across India to share our experiences with medical issues ashore / onboard. Problem areas during PEME as Kidney stone, Bad dental condition, High BMI, High Sugar, BP issues etc. We have company nominated Doctor, Dr JK Manghani to attend to all medical's issues for our Seafarers (Onboard, on-leave).*

*I must bring to your notice areas of concern also:*

- 1) Recently we seen disturbing rise in dismissal cases of Seafarers due to alcohol abuse onboard. Self has been onboard for investigation. We have taken action against such Seafarers which includes reporting the matter to Flag state, Unions & seeking CDC ban for 5 Yrs with DG Shipping. We have added investigation report sharing with Seafarers during briefing at Office.*
- 2) Another focus area is Hygiene onboard esp. galley and accommodation. We have installed USD 20 per month award to best cabin. Some of our Owners have asked us to stay focussed on the aspect of clean Cabin, clean boiler suits, good clothes wearing habit by our Seafarers and good presentation of ship including PSC Inspections.*

*We are 15 Years young now and recently our TME Sikandar Kureshi (Nanded) has become Chief Engineer onboard as well as our Cadet Rahat is Chief Officer. Our Training program is successful as we have more 3rd officers and 4th Engineers coming from our selected Cadet pool itself. We have 5 Lady Officers also serving on our ships. I am happy to inform that Capt. Shakil Sayyed saved life of 200 people at Sea and he was awarded for his act of humanity in India. VRM was also given award for highest number of various types of ships under crew management.*

*I was contacted by 63% of our Seafarers / families during this year. I am available on my mobile no +91-9930467030 to all our Seafarers and families at all times. I am presently member of DG Shipping advisory board and also on the panel of experts committee to formalise Standard Seafarers Employment Agreement for Indian Seafarers. We also thank DG Shipping for ease of documentation for our Seafarers especially sea-time assessment, issuance of CoC, BSID, CDC etc. MUI & NUSI supported us for compliance with CBAs and extending help to distressed India Seafarers across globe.*

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*I look forward to safe working onboard by each one of you and we remain indebted to our Owner's for giving us continued work. I am sure we will be your 1st choice for employment always and our Owner's will continue to have faith in our professionalism. We look forward to Great 2025 and our New Year Wishes to you and your families.*

*Best regards,*

*Capt. Sanjay Prashar | CEO*

# VESSEL VISITS

*Seeing familiar faces from the office onboard creates a personal connection. In VRM seafarers are not just part of a corporate machine, but an essential part of our team and we care for their well-being.*



*Visit on Fortune Gas  
at Goa*



*Visit to ST Cudi  
at Paradip*



*Visit to LPGC  
BOGAZICI*



# Wideshine Officers' Seminar - Mumbai

The Wideshine Seminar stood out as a pivotal event aimed at advancing professional development and fostering meaningful interaction with seafarers. By focusing on the growth of the maritime workforce and promoting forward-thinking practices, the seminar served as a catalyst for positive change in the sector. It offered valuable insights into the latest trends, cutting-edge technologies, and strategic approaches that are set to shape the future of maritime operations. With a strong emphasis on innovation, the partnership with VR Maritime will further solidify Wideshine's competitive edge, ensuring its continued leadership in a rapidly evolving and highly dynamic industry.



*“Seafarers’ Rights and Employment” organised by the Director General of Shipping in India on the initiative of Capt Sanjay Prashar*



*Congratulations to VR Maritime Services Pvt Ltd  
Winner at Indian Anchors Award 2024*



**VR Maritime Services Pvt Ltd** has been honoured at the prestigious *Indian Anchors Award 2024* for being the **Company with Maximum All Types of Ships!**

This remarkable achievement is a testament to the unwavering commitment, professionalism, and excellence demonstrated by every member of our organization including seafarers. Hard work and dedication have played a significant role in positioning VR Maritime as a leader in the industry.

This recognition not only highlights our growing fleet and operations but also reflects our core values of integrity, innovation, and teamwork. Let's take this opportunity to celebrate our success and continue to aim higher as we navigate toward greater milestones. Let's keep up the great work!



## Long-Term Service to VRM



### **Ms. Kavita Bane**

Ms Kavita feels truly honoured for over a decade of dedicated service and excellence in VRM. Her sincere and consistent commitment to seafarers and their families has been a cornerstone of her success, leaving an indelible mark on all those she encounters. A true pillar of our team, fostering collaboration and maintaining high standards over the years. Ms Kavita humbly expresses her deep gratitude to Capt. Sanjay Sir and Sonika Madam for instilling trust and confidence in her abilities.

### **Mr. Nazir Badiwale**

He feels truly grateful to work under a leader who not only excels in all aspects but also stands out for his ability to empower others. This leader doesn't just focus on his own success but actively creates opportunities for others to thrive and grow, paving the way for them to step into leadership roles themselves. Such a leader inspires people to embark on their own journeys toward a successful future, fostering their competence, competitiveness, and confidence by sharing valuable experiences and celebrating achievements. Mr Nazir extends his heartfelt thanks to Capt. Sanjay Sir and Sonika Madam for their unwavering support, visionary leadership, and dedication to helping others succeed.

### **Ms. Asha Thakur**

Ms Asha is sincerely grateful to have joined VRM on 23rd October 2013. It has been a successful and enriching journey, one that has not only contributed to her personal and professional growth but also helped her family thrive both financially and socially.

Asha expresses her sincere gratitude to Capt Sanjay Sir and Sonika Madam for believing in her and providing the opportunity to be part of such an incredible team. She is excited and looking forward to many more years of success and growth together with the company.

### **Mr. Swapnil More**

Mr Swapnil began his career at VRM in January 2014 as an Account Executive. Today, after 10 years, he is honoured to hold the position of Assistant General Manager (Accounts).

Throughout his journey, he is appreciative of being greatly influenced by the remarkable leadership of Capt. Sanjay Sir and Sonika Madam; their unwavering support, encouragement, and blessings have been instrumental in motivating him to always strive for excellence in his role. He is truly grateful to them and thanks them from the bottom of his heart.



## Filter-Regulator-Lubricator (FRL) on compressed air line

### Purpose of an FRL in a compressed air line:

A Filter Regulator Lubricator (FRL) fitted in a compressed air system serves to deliver clean dry air, at the required pressure, and lubricates the equipment which it runs. This in turn increases the operational lifetime of the equipment.



Fig. 1 Filter Regulator Lubricator (FRL)

Typically, an FRL (Fig. 1) is fitted after the shut off valve, the filter is the first component in the air line; then the regulator; and finally, the lubricator. Some may not be provided with a regulator; in which case only the filter and lubricator are fitted in the system.

**Filters** (Fig. 2) protect pneumatic devices from damage that would be caused by contaminants from the compressed air such as lubricant particulates ejected by the compressor, dirt particles, small water droplets or aerosols.

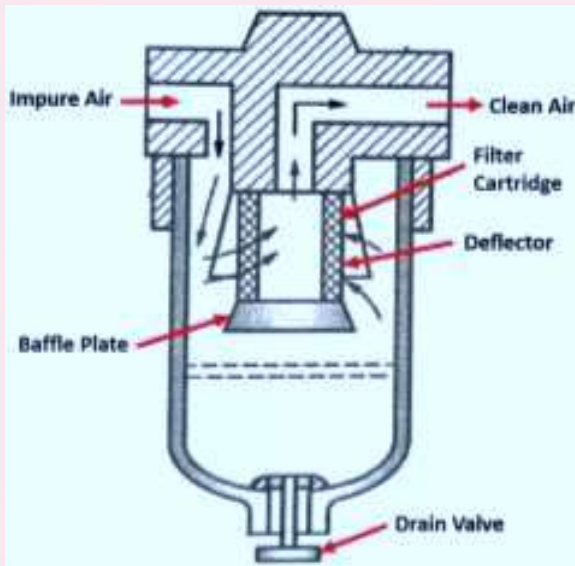


Fig. 2 FILTER

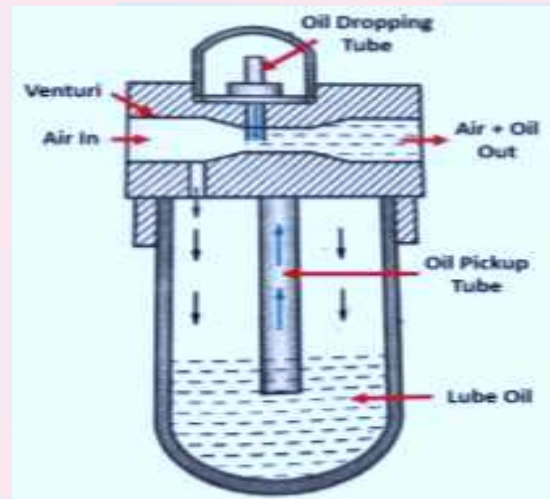


Fig. 3 LUBRICATOR

**Lubricators** (Fig. 3) provide a continuous stream of atomized oil for lubrication of the internal working parts of pneumatic tools, and to other devices such as actuating cylinders, valves, and motors. Lubrication helps reduce friction between sliding surfaces to not only improve efficiency and increase cycling speed of a component, but reduces wear, which ultimately means longer component life & less maintenance.

**Regulators** control the pressure in the air supply that is delivered by the air compressor.

### To ensure effective working of an FRL:

- The lubricator bowl should always be filled with oil to sufficient level. Oil can be added with either the air supply on or off.
- In working the air motor, turn the oil controlling screw and adjust oil rate to about 1 to 2 drops about every minute.
- If drain deposits in the filter, it should be discharged by loosening the drain valve at the bottom.
- Regular cleaning of the filter element may be necessary as it could affect the air permeability due to clogging from dust/debris from the compressed air line. The filter element should be cleaned with light oil, dried and refitted.

/// END ///

## **FROM THE DIARY OF AN AGEING MAN**

*Seconds turn into minutes, minutes into hours, hours into days, days into years, years into decades, decades into centuries and so on, conveying to us, that time is very powerful. It does not stop for anyone and keeps going at its own unalterable pace. Change is also one of the laws of nature and change and time often go hand in hand. We may choose to take time out of the rat races that we are engaged ourselves in, to ponder over this, but only if we choose to. Even though how much perfect our lives are or how much perfect we feel our lives are there is always a scope for changing them for the higher good, by introspection, by self-realizations, by being thankful, by being thoughtful, by offering gratitude, by maintaining our sangfroid, by striking the right balance in all the spheres of life, by streamlining our thoughts and energies, to sync our lives with the frequencies of mother nature and elevate ourselves to resonate our beings for eternal bliss.*

*Might seem too philosophical but if we look around, we can realize that change is all around us. For instance, a small sapling which some of us might have planted as a child in the backyard of our ancestral homes and on some nostalgic visit to that same, now uninhabited, ancestral home, we realize that it has grown to be a beautiful tree, observing keenly we might also realize that even if we did not see it grow each moment, nurture it daily, it has still turned out into a fine tree from a sapling. This example highlights that change is the only constant, everything in this world is a matter of time, for the deeds once sown one shall have to reap the outcome etc. Mother nature keeps on giving us hints with examples all of which are surrounding us at all times. One just has to be aware and be receptive to them. This sapling into tree is just a small example, there are other things, our careers for instance, our education, our school lives, our college lives, our relations with our parents, our spouse, our kids, our siblings, our friends, our current professional situations etc. If one observes keenly all have changed with time and shall continue to change with time for the highest good.*

*Let me site another example, as I am writing heavy words like self-realization, awareness, change etc. If I were to write something say around 15 years ago, such words and such a topic would surely not be on the top of my priority list for writing. But as it is said that time and tide wait for none, my ageing is no exception, me being in my 20's is water under the bridge now. In my journey of life (till now) I have realized that although change is hard to accept but it is inevitable and for me awareness, consciousness and receptivity ease this process.*

*With this extract from my diary, I intend to convey to the receptive readers that one should thank the Almighty for this life, good health, happiness and thank HIM for all HIS kindness, keep enjoying this journey and the process to the fullest with receptivity, awareness and zestfulness. Keep learning, keep observing, keep growing, keep your head on your shoulders, keep motivating own self and others, always extend a helping hand to the needy, always have a positive outlook to life, do introspect often, do not overthink, have a hobby, learn a musical instrument, indulge in a sport, enjoy a healthy lifestyle, travel, make friends, pen down your experiences and learnings, put your best foot forward always, never compare yourself with anyone, endeavour to lead a dutiful and disciplined life, be more patient, choose your battles wisely, revenge is futile, just remove your presence from the lives of unworthy people and from places that do not value you and your presence, make a difference in the lives of people you meet, do good, be good and once again always remember to thank HIM for everything.*

*Have a blessed life.*

**Capt. Nikhil Bhardwaj – GAS GEMINI**



# OCEAN CHRONICLES

Capt. Rahul Kumar  
M.T. Wisdom Venture

*Life at sea as a SEAFARER is a combination of adventure, discipline and moments of the pure joy. The industry vital for global trade, offers unique opportunities to explore the distant shores, meet people from various cultures, and witness nature's magnificence.*



**Berthing at Port Bonython on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2025**

*Despite the long hours and the challenges of being away from the loved ones, life onboard Wisdom Venture has its own charms. It encourages companionship among crew members, turning colleagues into family. Shared meals, celebrations of different festivals onboard, and recounting tales of past voyages add a sense of belonging and pleasure / enjoyment to the journey.*

*Life at sea, from the captain's perspective is a blend of immense responsibility and profound satisfaction. The thrill of navigating through vast oceans, reading the stars and mastering the forces of nature is a privilege few can claim and thanks to VR Maritime, I got this opportunity. Every sunrise and sunset seen from the bridge offers a reminder of the beauty and serenity of the sea. The satisfaction of a successful voyage, overcoming challenges such as storm or technical issues, and arriving safely at the next port is deeply rewarding.*

*Ultimately, while shipping life demands hard work and sacrifices, it also gifts experiences and memories that few other professions can offer. It teaches one to find joy in the journey and the vast, ever-changing world around them. On behalf of wisdom venture family, thanks a lot to the VR Maritime who has brought us together and we got the lifetime memories.*



**2024 CHRISTMAS VISITOR ON THE BULBOUS BOW**

# OCEAN CHRONICLES



SECRET SANTA GIFTS FOR SHIP'S STAFF



Gifts Distribution to all Ship Staff on New Year



# VOYAGE OF TOGETHERNESS

*Life in the maritime world is a journey not just for seafarers but also for their families. Joining the wisdom venture ship as a captain's wife has been incredible journey that has allowed me to embrace the unique world of shipping life. Sailing alongside my husband, I have witnessed the true essence to maritime life, one with filled with challenges, adventure and second the fulfilment joy of journey. The opportunity to be part of this life has been nothing but short of extraordinary.*

*Throughout my voyages, I have enjoyed of celebrating different festivals like Karwa chauth, Diwali, Christmas, New Year 2025 and specially my Birthday & Our Marriage Anniversary onboard. Even though they are away from their home, the all crew members (New family of mine) found ways to make each celebration special for me and creating memories that would last a lifetime. The efforts and feeling of togetherness despite from different religion/countries made these occasions even more meaningful and special.*



**Birthday Celebration**



**Karwa Chauth Celebration**

*Shipping life taught me the enjoyment is often lies in the simple things like stargazing on a quite night, feeling the salty breeze, or capturing the first glimpse of new ports, sound of waves, beautiful sunsets/ sunrise, playful dolphins/whales/seal's escorting the vessels and many more nature sceneries which I have never imagined.*

*I am deeply thankful to the **VR Maritime** for providing this unique opportunity. Their support not only made it possible for me to join the ship but also allowed me to explore the world, experience diverse cultures, and share these experiences with my husband. It a journey I will forever cherish, and I am grateful for the chance to be part of this extraordinary life at sea. **THANKING YOU** all for making this possible 😊*



**ARCHANA KUMARI**  
w/o Capt. Rahul Kumar  
M.T. Wisdom Venture

## PROUD FLASHES!

### *Hittarth and Anay Bhardwaj's Badminton Journey*



*Hittarth and Anay, the sons of Capt. Nikhil Bhardwaj, currently aboard the Gas Gemini, are dedicatedly honing their badminton skills back home, thanks to the support and encouragement of their mother. Hittarth is preparing for the prestigious Punjab State Level Badminton Competition, set to take place in 2025, while Anay is also building his skills in the sport, aiming to compete in the District Level Competition in the same year. Their hard work and determination reflect their passion for badminton and a promising future in the sport.*



## शेरो शायरी



पारा पारा बिखरती सी वो  
शायद पत्थर हो जायेगी  
सबकी खातिर जीते जीते  
डर है, इक दिन मर जायेगा

हालात से सर टकराते हैं  
गिरते हैं फिर उठ जाते हैं.  
और दर्द की धीमी आग से जलती  
खुद को तन्हा पाती है।

खुद को समझिए  
सिमटी सुलझी सी रहती  
दिन सारा यू ही बिताती है  
फिर रात को, दिन के ज़ख्मों पर  
खुद लगा के मरहम, सो जाते हैं

खुद टूटे, रिशतों को संभाले  
हिम्मत नहीं वो हारी है,  
उसमे अक्स माँ शक्ति का है,  
हम सब उसके आभारी हैं



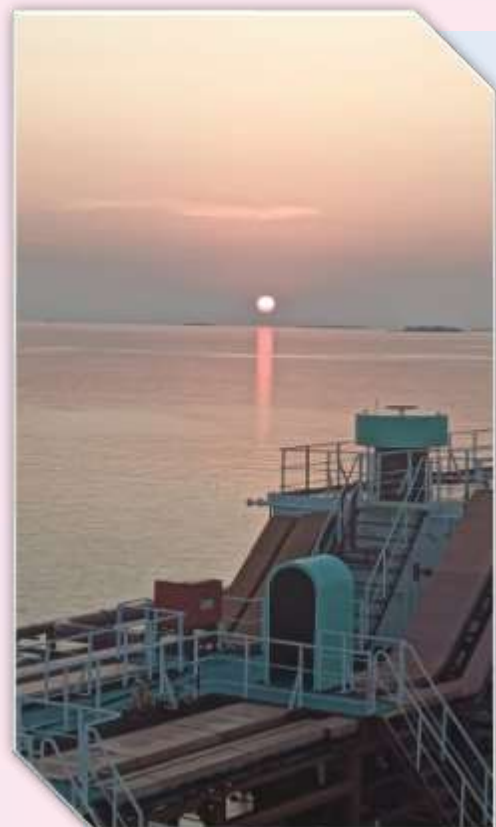
Capt. Nikhil Bhardwaj





"Where the sky meets the sea,  
endless possibilities unfold"

*Courtesy - Capt Nikhil Bhardwaj  
Onboard GAS GEMINI*





Olr Shantilal Dahyabhai



2/E Vamsi Krishna



Bosun Amit Dixit



C/Ck Syed Shah Alam



Olr Amrjith Valiya



2/E Sukanta Banerjee



C/Ck Ramana Govinda



3/E Prakash



Olr Rakesh Kumar Mandan



A/B Buddhabhushan



A/B Ankush Sharma



C/Ck Biswajit Bag



Capt Shandil Vikas



Olr Rajat Kumar Tripathi



Olr Vishnu Kumar Chauhan



O/S Naresh Kumar



# VR Maritime Celebrates Seafarers Birthday 🎂





Mr. Arnav Dubey



Ms. Priya Prabhu



Mr. Suyog Kendre



Ms. Payal Kadu



Mr. Kothandaraaman V



Mr. Capt. Ranbir Singh



Mr. Varun Kumar



Ms. Shruti Bhardwaj



Ms. Nemisha Y



Ms. Pranali Juwatkar



Ms. Dhanya T



Ms. Shruti Kulkarni



Mr. Puneet Sharma



Mrs. Nancy Singarayar



Ms. Divyanshu Rana



Mr. Nishant Kumar



# VR Maritime Celebrates Staff Birthday's 🎉



# Wedding Bell's



Dept: Training, Mumbai Office  
Ms. Simran Vishwakarma

VR Maritime values its employees not only professionally but also personally by celebrating their life milestones together.



Oiler Vinoth  
Weds Mrs Selvi



Dept: Operations,  
Chennai Office  
Mr. R Narendran



Dept: Operations,  
Chandigarh Office  
Mr. Mohit Kajla



3/E Vijaykumar Weds  
Mrs Kirubavathi



# VR Maritime Celebrates Navratri

Navratri, a vibrant and joyous festival celebrated across India, marking nine nights of devotion, spiritual renewal, cultural festivities, and community bonding. In the workplace, celebrating Navratri brings a sense of unity and cultural appreciation among employees, creating a positive and festive atmosphere.



Vibrant colours and dress themes were worn by the office staff dressed in traditional attire, bright and colourful outfits that correspond to the theme colours of each day of Navratri. Women wore sarees, lehengas, and salwar suits, while men came in kurtas and other ethnic wear. This added a sense of cultural richness and inclusivity, with everyone participating and embracing the spirit of the festival. Employees shared festive delicacies and office staff arranged potlucks, where employees brought home-cooked food to share with their colleagues, fostering a spirit of community and togetherness.



Mumbai Office Staff



Rangoli by Mumbai office staff



Chandigarh Office Staff



Kochi Office Staff



Chennai Office Staff



"Shades of Greenery" evokes a vivid imagery of nature's various hues, from the lightest lime greens to the deepest forest tones. It symbolizes the diversity of representing growth, renewal, and tranquillity.