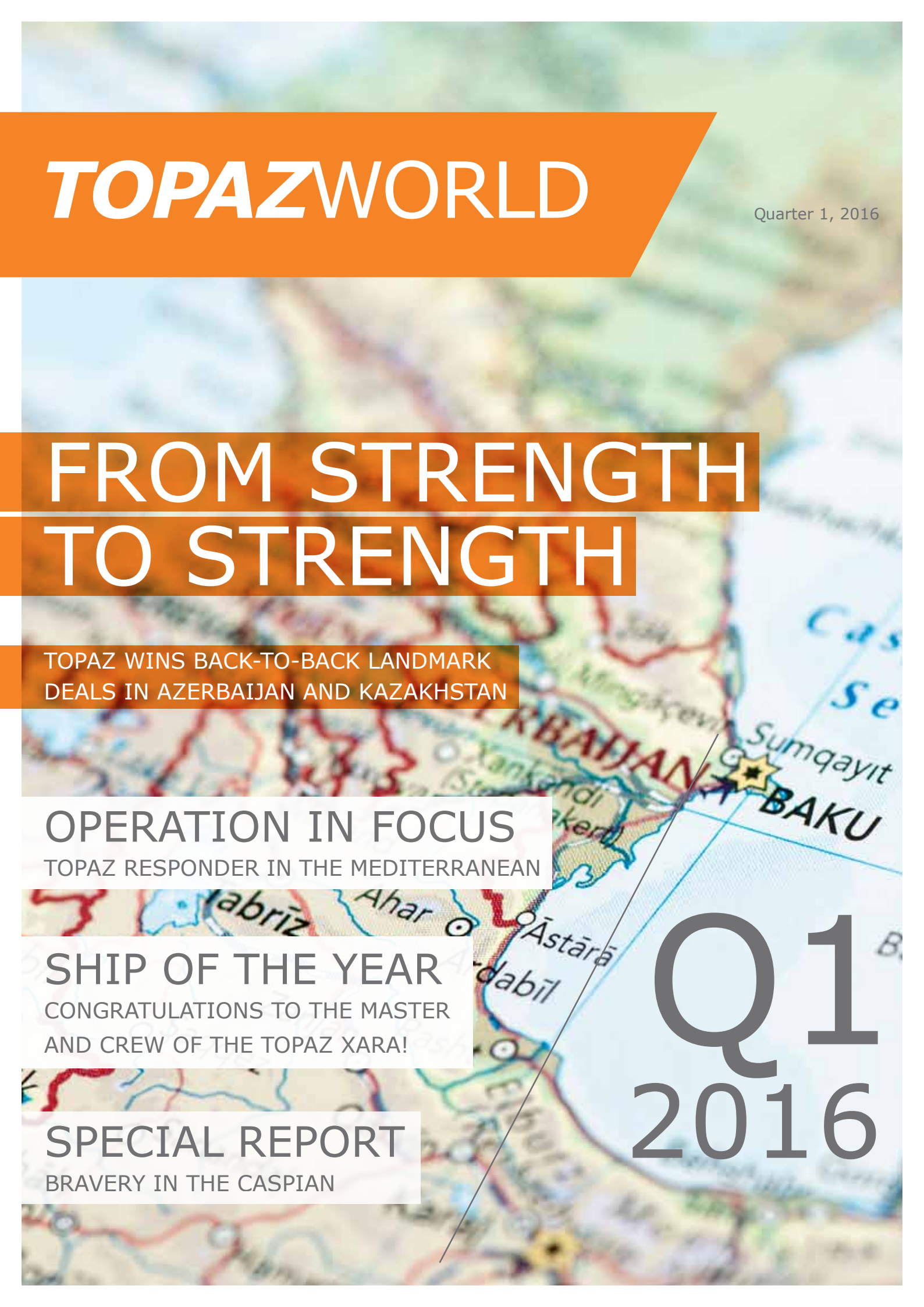




TOPAZWORLD

Quarter 1, 2016

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

TOPAZ WINS BACK-TO-BACK LANDMARK
DEALS IN AZERBAIJAN AND KAZAKHSTAN

OPERATION IN FOCUS

TOPAZ RESPONDER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

SHIP OF THE YEAR

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MASTER
AND CREW OF THE TOPAZ XARA!

SPECIAL REPORT

BRAVERY IN THE CASPIAN

Q1
2016



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IS PRINTED ON
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Message from the CEO

Welcome to the latest issue of TopazWorld.

It's a pleasure to highlight in this issue the way that Topaz and its people have been making the news.

Against the backdrop of a deepening crisis, particularly in Africa and Mena, the company is battling on all fronts to outperform a very weak market. Price undercutting by low-cost operators is widespread and Topaz needs to be on its toes in all respects to remain competitive. I urge each and every one of you to do your utmost during this trying time to reduce cost, work efficiently, serve our clients well, and most of all work safely at all times.

We start with the bravery and professionalism of the Topaz team in Azerbaijan, performing beyond the call of duty during the dramatic offshore rig fire at the end of last year, and we get to know the captain of one of the vessels involved.

The Caspian has also seen us win two landmark contracts in the last few months. We'll be supplying 14 vessels to support BP's operations, a contract that won the prestigious Global Seatrade Deal of the Year award. That was followed by a US\$350 million 15-vessel contract for the Tengizchevroil joint venture. We'll cover this contract and the project in detail in the next issue of TopazWorld.

Also in this issue: an update on the NS5 fleet management software that we are introducing on all our vessels this year, a report on the Annual STOP Conference, and an update on the Saudi cadets training programme. Congratulations too to Topaz Xara, named Ship of the Year.

And thank you for all the great feedback. We you really appreciate your support, and please continue to share your photos and stories with us.

Until next time,
René Kofod-Olsen
Chief Executive Officer

Published by: Topaz Energy and Marine Communications Team

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OPERATION IN FOCUS

TOPAZ RESPONDER AND CREW SHINES IN SEARCH AND RESCUE DUTIES

The Topaz Responder has emerged as an unlikely player in the effort to save refugee migrants risking their lives on the sea crossing from Turkey to Greece's islands in order to reach Europe.

While Topaz's new emergency response and rescue vessel, the Topaz Responder, was primarily designed to provide safety support for offshore oil and gas producers, it is presently operating as a search and rescue vessel in the Aegean Sea. Contracted by not-for-profit organization Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS), the Responder is playing a crucial role scouring the often treacherous waters of the relatively short (10 – 14 nautical miles) crossing, acting as MOAS' 'mothership' in its Aegean Sea Mission.

The Responder is now integral to the MOAS' search and rescue efforts as it actively combs the Turkish coastline alongside its two Fast Rescue Daughter Craft, named after Alan and Ghalib Kurdi, the two Syrian toddlers whose deaths prompted global outrage in September last year. On 28 December, the Topaz Responder completed its first mission, rescuing 59 people stranded on two boats following engine

problems, two miles from the Greek island of Lesbos. Barely a week later, another group of migrants were shipwrecked and was later rescued off the Greek island of Agathonisias. As winter sets in and the seas get colder and more hostile, the crossing has become much more dangerous but this has not stopped refugees from attempting the crossing. The Responder is expected to remain in the area to continue its search and rescue operations.

The Topaz Responder's contract with MOAS officially began in December having been formally engaged by the charity's manager; Tangiers Maritime Limited. MOAS is one of six charities chosen as the beneficiaries of an appeal by UK publication The Guardian and Observer.

TOPAZ RESPONDER HONES RESCUE SKILLS

The plight of migrants trying to cross the Mediterranean in unsafe boats has been across the world's news channels for many months now. Saving lives at sea is a duty for every vessel, but Topaz's new emergency response and rescue vessel, the Topaz Responder, has also been adding specialised rescue skills for its work in the Aegean Sea.

Topaz Responder is designed primarily to provide safety support for offshore oil and gas producers, but it is presently operating as a search and rescue vessel under contract to the not-for-profit organisation Migrant Offshore Aid Station (MOAS). Topaz Responder is now playing a crucial role on 24/7 alert as the MOAS 'mothership' in its Aegean Sea mission.

The Topaz Responder patrols the Greek islands just about every day in a designated area assigned by the Greek Coastguard's Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Piraeus.

And to keep the crew sharp and fit, Topaz Responder has been doing specialised training three or four times each week.

One exercise, conducted with two locally active NGOs, the Swedish Sea Rescue Society and the Hellenic Rescue Team, was to recover people stranded on rocks or shore with access only from the sea. Using a life raft, lines and a pair of rescue swimmers, the "migrants" were transferred first to one of the Topaz Responder's Fast Rapid Deployment Craft (FRDC) and later to the mother ship itself.

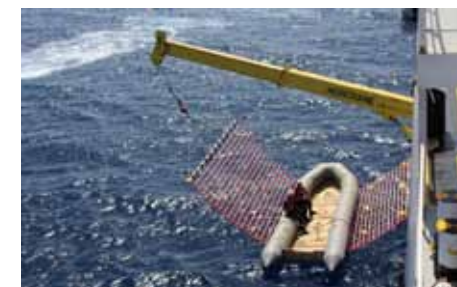
The firefighting system was also tested as part of the training, particularly to hone the team's ability to cope with an object that is on fire and drifting. With the FiFi engine at maximum RPM, the vessel starts manoeuvring and the FiFi changes the water delivery between jet and spray.



1 Practice for rescue swimmers with the Dracon Rescue Basket is critical for an unconscious survivor in the water, or if a number of people need to be rescued quickly.



3 Topaz Responder has also been training picking up people in life rings from the water without assistance, for instance when bad weather means it is not possible to launch an FRDC or put rescue swimmers into the water.



4 The Dracon Scoop can also be used to rescue an entire life raft. The crew have been training with an old rubber boat to simulate a distress situation, using the Scoop to stabilise the boat and bring the survivors on board.



5 There are regular exercises for transferring survivors at sea, including moving a casualty from one vessel to another when both are underway.

GETTING TO KNOW...

FOR THIS ISSUE OF TOPAZWORLD, WE GET TO KNOW CAPTAIN VIDADI NURULLAYEV OF THE CASPIAN PROTECTOR

Please tell us a bit about your vessel and the kind of work it is currently doing.

The "Caspian Protector" is a rescue vessel, which provides various services to BP operated oil platforms. We help control the movement of other vessels in the area so they do not interfere with the operations taking place. We also send daughter crafts as required, perform FROG operations, as well as provide support to various other activities held in the platform's neighbourhood.

Please tell us about your role as the Captain of the Caspian Protector. What is a typical day for you like?

As the Master of the vessel, I have overall responsibility for its safe navigation and operation, the safety of my crew and any third party representative on board, the safe transport of passengers from vessel to vessel and the organization and supervision of the vessel's day-to-day activities as required.

I stay in permanent contact with the crew 24/7, to resolve problems on the spot as much as possible and ensure that the crew is briefed and guided before the start of any work. My team and I discuss all urgent and vital needs during weekly meetings.

How long have you been with Topaz? Any career highlights with Topaz you want to share?

I have been working for Topaz since 2004, first as Chief Officer and from 2008 as a Master.

I consider this position as a peak of my career and always try to share my experience and knowledge.

You and your team / vessel helped in the firefighting operations during the rig fire in December. Please tell us about it.

As soon as we received information about the fire on the platform we immediately set off to the site. We were able to save three of the rig crew – the rig's lifeboat was stuck in the lower part of the platform, and though the high winds and waves of up to 13m prevented us from getting closer, we were able to keep in touch with that boat until its crew could be rescued. After that we began firefighting, which went on for some hours.

Please tell us about yourself. Who is Captain Vidadi outside of his professional life? Any hobbies or interests?

I am a caring family man. My wife, who is a teacher, and I have been blessed with a son, 2 daughters and now, grandkids. My son is 30 years old with congenital disease, one daughter is also a teacher, while the other is a psychology student who is planning to pursue her studies in Turkey.

I am a man with diverse interests, like fishing and hunting, and in fact I was member of Hunters Society for a long time. I like being in the nature very much.

What made you decide to take up a career at sea?

I was born into a big family of 11 kids and spent my childhood by the sea in Astara, in the southern part of Azerbaijan. My father participated in the Great Patriotic War while my mother served at the home front.

My father and brother worked at sea as masters, so it was inevitable that I become a sailor, too! I served three years in the Soviet Navy as a Platoon Commander where I was awarded with multiple possibilities for home leave for my exemplary conduct.

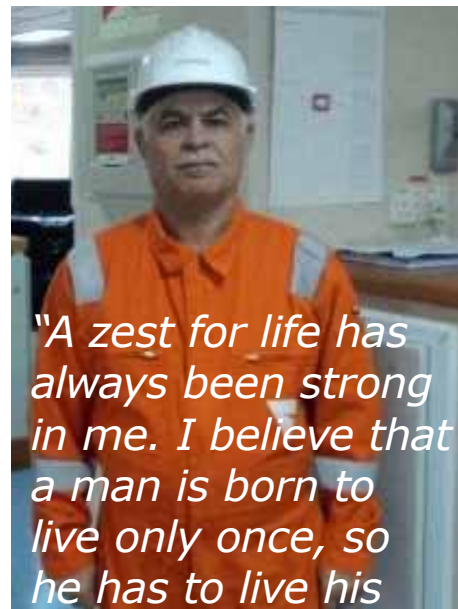
In a snapshot, what is your favourite:

Holiday spot: Beautiful nature, fishing or hunting

Sport: Freestyle wrestling

Movie: Historical, military and detective

Food: Fish



"A zest for life has always been strong in me. I believe that a man is born to live only once, so he has to live his life in a way that in retrospect, he will not be sorry for the years past."



SPECIAL REPORT

BRAVERY IN THE CASPIAN

On 5th December 2015, during heavy weather and high seas, a gas riser ruptured on one of the manned platforms in the Azerbaijani Guneshli Field, resulting in a major fire and requiring complete abandonment. Topaz vessels raced to the scene.

Topaz Dignity was first to arrive at the scene, with Caspian Protector and Caspian Endeavour arriving shortly thereafter, together with state-owned AHTS M/V Lankaran. Protector immediately joined in firefighting with Dignity, whilst Endeavour and Lankaran provided assistance to survivors in the water and in survival craft. At this time, weather conditions were producing 10-13 meter waves.

Soon after the fire broke out, the platform crew had attempted to launch one of their lifeboats but the high winds had blown it into the legs of the platform, crushing it and ejecting the survivors into the sea. The crew of Protector's FRDC-7 demonstrated exemplary skill by launching in heavy seas, maneuvering close to the platform and safely recovering the survivors.

The platform remained on fire for weeks after it initially broke out. Throughout this time, our crews and vessels have rotated through support duties to ensure continuous, tireless support on-scene, demonstrating even more commitment and craftsmanship to be proud of!

In recognition of the swift, effective and selfless actions shown, the officers and FRC crew of the Caspian Protector were honoured at a ceremony held in Baku on 24th December, and were each presented with prizes and plaques recognising their outstanding efforts during the firefighting and rescue operations. Each of these colleagues has demonstrated their commitment to protecting the safety of our clients' personnel, as well as their own, and have provided true examples of operating safely, the Topaz Way!

Aside from the team of the Caspian Protector, the crew from the Caspian Endeavour, Caspian Supporter, Baki, Topaz Triumph, and the Caspian Voyager were also honoured during the ceremony.



The awarding ceremony was held under the patronage of Mr. Rauf Valiyev, Chairman of Azerbaijan Caspian Shipping Company (4th from the right). Also seen in the picture are, from right to left: HR Director Ealbra Moradkhan, COO Geoff Taylor, CEO René Kofod-Olsen, Mr. Rauf Valiyev, and Captain Vidadi and his team.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS



TOPAZ AND BP SIGN LONG-TERM CONTRACTS FOR 14 SHIPS IN AZERBAIJAN

Topaz has secured 14 offshore support vessel contracts with BP Exploration (Caspian Sea) Limited ("BP").

Under the terms of the agreement, Topaz will supply 14 offshore support vessels for a five year period plus two one-year options, primarily in support of BP's ACG and Shah Deniz II fields offshore Azerbaijan.

The agreement extends currently running contracts for the 14 vessels until 2023 including all options. At the time of the award, these contracts brought Topaz's global revenue backlog to nearly US\$1.4bn and demonstrates the company's competitiveness in the Caspian market.

René Kofod-Olsen, Chief Executive Officer, Topaz Energy and Marine, said, "We are humbled by BP's continued trust in our capabilities and look forward to repaying that confidence by consistent world-class service. Our ability to secure long-term contracts with a reputed oil major such as BP reflects the value and quality of Topaz's operations in the Caspian and globally. Our exemplary operational and safety track record and our commitment to Azerbaijan allow us to build our position in the face of a challenging market. The agreement provides a long-term platform from which to build further scale in the broader Caspian and adds significantly to Topaz's credit strength through tremendous revenue visibility."

Topaz's fleet contracted by BP through this landmark agreement spans large anchor-handlers, platform supply vessels and emergency response and recovery vessels. Topaz's total fleet serving in Azerbaijan numbers 21 vessels. Topaz has been active in Azerbaijan for several decades and is committed to Azerbaijan and the wider Caspian for the long-term, demonstrated through its high levels of localization and significant investments over many years.

TOPAZ AWARDED "DEAL OF THE YEAR" FOR BP CONTRACT

Topaz has received the "Deal of the Year" Award at the 2016 Seatrade Global Awards in London, for its contract win with BP Azerbaijan.

CEO René Kofod-Olsen said, "We are honored to have been awarded the Seatrade 'Deal of the Year' Award. This award marks the first time Topaz has secured a prestigious international award and reflects our increasing presence as a globally significant OSV business. We are especially proud to have been recognized for our efforts in a period of tough market conditions. We are grateful to have the opportunity to work with world-class clients such as BP and we thank them for their ongoing trust in our ability to deliver."

The Seatrade Awards were first introduced in 1988, to celebrate and recognize the achievements of the industry and outstanding individuals within it. This year sees the 28th edition of the awards.

TOPAZ SECURES 15-VESSEL CONTRACT IN KAZAKHSTAN

Topaz has secured another milestone contract win; the monumental Tengiz project. Worth in excess of US\$350 million, the contract is for the supply and operation of 15 vessels for the super-giant Tengiz oilfield for Tengizchevroil (TCO) in Kazakhstan. TCO is a joint venture operated by US based oil major Chevron, comprising Chevron (50%), Exxon (25%), KMG (20%), and LukArco (5%).

Under the Tengiz project, we will commission the construction of 15 newly designed Module Carrying Vessels (MCVs) which will commence work in Q2 2018

for a minimum contract period of three years. The innovative vessels have been designed in collaboration with Vard Shipyard Group to navigate shallow river systems as they transport modules and cargoes through the Russian waterways to the oilfield in Kazakhstan. The 123-meter long vessels will be built in three Vard yards in Romania and Vietnam. The contract will be executed in consortium with freight solutions specialists Blue Water Shipping A/S.

Our CEO René Kofod-Olsen, said, "This award reinforces our reputation as a trusted offshore

logistics partner to oil majors globally and we are humbled by TCO's confidence in Topaz. With our proven track-record of reliable and safe operations which spans decades in the Caspian region, Topaz continues to capture value in this complex offshore market. Vard's longstanding shipbuilding traditions, cutting-edge innovation and in-house technology perfectly complements Topaz's reputation for providing quality and bespoke solutions to meet our client's needs and we look forward to deepening our relationship with the Vard group. Our sincere gratitude also to Blue Water Shipping who is a regional leader in tailor-made transport and logistics solutions and our ideal partner in the execution of this complex logistics project."

This is the second very large contract awarded to Topaz this year, following the BP 14-vessel contract. These two awards bring our total contract backlog to a market-leading US\$1.6 billion.



FINANCE UPDATE



THE MARKET REMAINS SEVERELY CHALLENGED AND SO THE INDUSTRY CONTINUES TO SUFFER

The company’s results for the three months of 2016 have been within expectations in spite of the prevailing challenges plaguing the oil and gas market in general and the offshore support sector in particular.

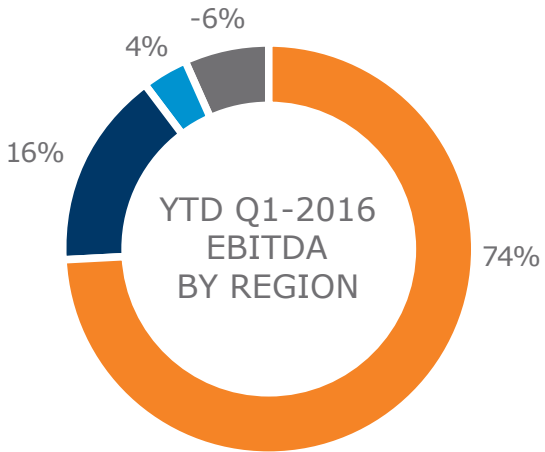
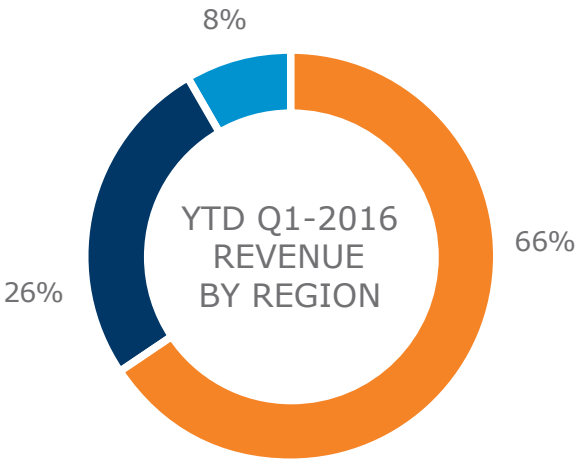
We have managed to deliver revenue of US\$78 million (LY: US\$ 85 million) and a strong EBITDA of \$40 million (LY: US\$ 39 million).

We expect 2016 to continue to be a challenging period with lower demand for vessels. In these times, we need to rally behind our great company and continue to ensure that we achieve operational excellence in all that we do, however small the task.

For comments, please email Jay Daga at jay.daga@topazworld.com

“BEWARE OF LITTLE EXPENSES. A SMALL LEAK WILL SINK A GREAT SHIP.”

– Benjamin Franklin



● Caspian ● MENA ● Africa ● Corporate / Adj

FUN PAGE

Scan and email us your correct submissions on or before 30th July 2016 and one lucky winner will win a special prize.

S	R	H	J	S	W	E	L	L	S
A	M	P	E	L	M	A	N	N	O
V	A	O	N	R	T	I	V	A	D
E	K	O	D	X	A	R	Y	E	E
V	E	C	E	R	E	C	R	M	A
U	G	S	A	U	F	M	O	Y	L
T	I	N	V	O	A	Q	T	E	O
S	J	O	I	M	G	I	C	R	F
Z	H	C	L	G	N	K	E	I	T
G	A	A	R	G	D	L	T	R	H
B	K	R	I	F	C	I	O	N	E
A	D	D	A	N	S	B	R	O	Y
K	W	R	U	A	A	B	P	B	E
I	M	B	F	R	O	A	M	S	A
S	T	E	M	A	E	B	G	P	R
Y	T	M	C	X	J	R	P	V	O
Y	I	A	V	D	E	M	A	R	F
A	L	S	U	E	A	R	I	P	F
O	U	Q	C	S	D	X	N	E	T
H	K	E	D	A	C	I	R	F	A

Excerpts from the TOPAZ WAY

ACCEPT NO LOSS OR ACCIDENT WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED BY APPLYING CONSTANT CARE

- We will not suffer any incident that is a result of carelessness
- We take the company business personally
- We do not make the same mistake twice

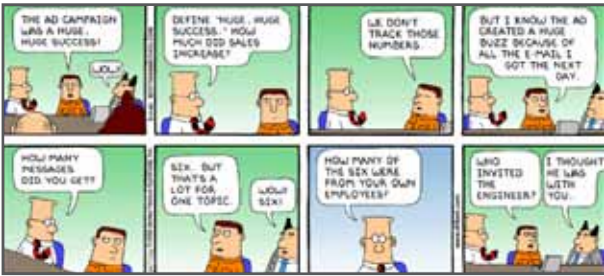
Congratulations to TopazWorld Q4-2015 wordsearch winner: Teresa Rodriguez, HR/Admin Coordinator. Thank you to all who submitted entries.

Answers to previous wordsearch:
1) Subsea 2) Safaniya 3) Karama 4) OA Officers 5) Luanda Oil and Gas 6) Arabiya 7) Safety and Quality 8) Khobar 9) Rumailah 10) Aramco 11) Khalidiya* 12) Status Quo

*The answer for item number 11 has been excluded in the total score count as it has been misspelled as Khalidaya in the puzzle. Thank you to R. Adhishesan for pointing out the error.

Word Search

1. This is where the Greek Coastguard’s Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre is located
2. First to arrive at the scene of the rig fire
3. The industry award won for the BP contract
4. Ship of the Year for 2015
5. The management module that will be rolled out first in NS5
6. “_____ the Gap” is the theme of the conference held last February
7. This can be extended to an offshore installation to allow personnel to “walk to work”
8. Anchor handler recently contracted by Aramco
9. By applying this constantly, we will avoid or minimize losses or accidents
10. Builder of Topaz’s new 15 MCVs
11. Vessel helmed by Captain Vidadi Nurullayev
12. This can be used to rescue an entire life raft



* Remember some answers can be found backwards. Type “wordsearch” in the subject and email us at topaz.communications@topazworld.com

TOPAZ NEWS

MAMLAKA ACCEPTED BY ARAMCO

In the previous issue of TopazWorld, we reported on the addition of the anchor handler Topaz Mamlaka to the fleet, bringing our total number of vessels to 100.

We are pleased to report that following routine tests and modifications requested by the client, we have received the good news that Topaz Mamlaka has now been formally accepted by Saudi Aramco for service. She has now officially joined the Saudi fleet, marking another memorable milestone in our operational history in the region.

The news came at a moment the entire onshore team (including Port Management) had gathered in the Al Khobar office for the monthly management meeting last March, so the entire team took the opportunity to celebrate.



TOPAZ COMMANDER GETS AN AMPELMANN

The multi-purpose support vessel Topaz Commander recently got fitted with an Ampelmann gangway unit as per client requirement for use in the Al Shaheen oilfield, offshore Qatar.

Similar to a flight simulator, the Ampelmann eliminates any relative motion by taking instant measurements of the ship's motions and then compensates them by using 6 hydraulic cylinders. The result: the top of the Ampelmann remains completely stationary compared to the structure. The offshore gangway can then be extended towards the structure so all personnel can walk to work offshore safely, even in high wave conditions.



Photo by ETO Banko John, showing the Ampelmann unit fitted on the Commander's main deck.



Rig crew "walking to work" using the Ampelmann gangway

Personnel are transferred to the work platform via the gangway after initially waiting on the upper Ampelmann platform which is stabilized to counter the vessels rolling and pitching motions. This gangway system offers minimum stoppage of work and personnel can transfer safely without having to wait for platform cranes and personnel baskets.

SAUDIS ENROLLED IN NAUTICAL STUDIES DEGREE PROGRAMME

Five young Saudi trainees from Topaz Marine KSA have started academic programmes at the International Maritime College, Oman.



The IMCO courses, which last three or four years, will lead to the trainees becoming fully qualified Deck or Engine Officers. On graduation, they will have a Bachelor of Science degree or diploma in Nautical Studies. They will also qualify for the subsequent STCW A Certificate of Competency. The IMCO programme runs alongside Topaz's ongoing cooperation with the King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah, where all the STCW short courses are conducted for Saudi crew.

The cadets – Abdullah Alyami, Faris Aldhafeeri, Wail Haider, Mohammed Mohammed and Yousef Alsadiq – won through an intensive selection process headed by Topaz Marine KSA's Saudization and Training Manager Abdullah al Sagheer.

TOPAZ MARINE KSA WELCOMES NEW SAUDI TRAINEES

As part of our ongoing efforts to create sustainable job opportunities for Saudi youngsters, Topaz Marine KSA recently enrolled four new trainees. After having completed the Basic Safety Training at the King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah, the four embarked on Topaz Khalidiya to start their maritime career as trainees. Upon completion of their Training Record Book, six months of seetime and an eight-week 'rating-deck' course they will be appointed as qualified rating-decks. We wish them good luck!



NS5 TO BE IMPLEMENTED ON ALL TOPAZ VESSELS

You might be aware that Topaz is in the process of rolling out NS5 software on all vessels that is planned to be completed by the end of 2016.

What is NS5?

NS5 is a comprehensive and fully integrated software solution for planned maintenance supplied by ABS Nautical Systems which aims to provide us with the tools necessary to reach our goal of being the best-in-class, reliable, and innovative service provider to our customers. NS5 comes with the following modules:

- QHSSE
- Planned Maintenance
- Procurement
- Document Management
- Dry Dockings
- Voyage and Energy

Why are we implementing NS5?

In a nutshell, NS5 will ensure that Topaz remains "nimble" by optimizing productivity and managing costs. It also reduces administration, streamlines fleet management and promotes safety on board.

The project has two main components, firstly, the collection of data from the vessels (e.g. equipment lists, manuals, drawings etc.) and the population of said data into the NS5 system in the required format and then setting up the communications infrastructure on board

our vessels so that these data can interact with other Topaz systems (e.g. accounting system) and secondly, the training aspect for our crew and our shore based users.

The data collection and population exercise is due for completion by August 2016, during this time training programs and materials will be developed through mediums such as eLearning (i.e. use of a website to gain preliminary exposure to the system), video, FAQs and quick reference guides.

From August 2016, we will deliver, just-in-time training (as close to when the crew go onboard and use the system as soon as possible) to our crew which we currently estimate to be completed by the end of December 2016. As the vessel's data is collected and populated we will make this data available to our shore staff teams so that they may get the benefit of having data in the NS5 system as early as possible.

In this tough market, the requirements of our clients has become no less demanding. In fact, to win work, we need to stand out from our competitors and demonstrate that we are better. The introduction of NS5 as a management system will help in this regard by showing our customers that we are committed to improving our efficiency in a number of key operational areas.

One critical area where we will see improvements is safety management, our highest priority. The safety management module will be one of the first modules to be rolled out and will ensure all reporting is captured in one database. This will allow us to take rapid corrective actions and implement improvements as soon as incidents are reported - ultimately making Topaz operations safer! Another important area where we will see efficiency improvements is in the significant reduction in the amount of fragmented information produced. A single point for data entry will make our shore staff and crews lives simpler and will ultimately help towards reducing our operational costs. It will also provide a solid and accurate database where any authorized employee will be able to download and review information across the company and the fleet from a single source.

We will keep you updated on the project's progress through the Nautilus Times, the monthly newsletter from the NS5 team.

For comments or questions, email NS5.Support@topaz-marine.com

QHSSE UPDATE

QHSSE PERFORMANCE UPDATE EOY 2015

- One LTI has been reported in the period which also affected our TRIR
- Zero Environmental incidents in period, resulting in downward ENVf trend
- Our reporting activity level (RAL) continues at high levels of organic reporting
- Strong levels of detailed, actionable Near Miss reports; all Safety Flashes now being issued from Corporate QHSSE
- MVR beginning to drop, although still well above IMCA benchmark, as focus shifts from quality to quantity and with emphasis on senior management

MEASURE	OUR PERFORMANCE
FATAL ACCIDENT RATE	ZERO
LOST TIME INJURY FREQUENCY (LTIF)	0.80
TOTAL RECORDABLE INJURY RATE (TRIR)	2.41
ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENT FREQUENCY (ENVF)	ZERO
SAFETY OBSERVATION FREQUENCY RATE (SOFR)	1,237.79
MANAGEMENT VISIT RATE	22

YOUR PICTURES



While in Manifa anchorage, the crew of the Topaz Khalidiya performs a fire drill with a simulated casualty.



The crew of the Caspian Pride conducts a Control of Work audit in the Caspian Sea.



CONGRATULATIONS TO 2015 SHIP OF THE YEAR TOPAZ XARA!

The coveted Topaz 2015 Ship of the Year accolade has gone to the Topaz Xara. The plaque was presented to Captain Vasily Ivanov, Master of Topaz Xara, at the annual STOP Conference, held this year on 21st and 22nd of February.

Said Captain Ivanov, "When it was announced that our good ship had won the Ship of the Year award from among the entire Topaz fleet, we couldn't believe it – we thought that we were indulging in wishful thinking! I took part in the STOP conference together with my Chief Engineer Dmytro Shestov. Joy and pride filled us, and during the break we immediately called our team onboard to share with them the good news."

With all Topaz regions nominating three vessels each, it turned out to be a very close competition with some excellent candidates. But after detailed scrutiny and analysis of data by senior management, Topaz Xara was declared a deserving winner.

The vessel has more than exceeded expectations during her charter for BP in Angola. Topaz Xara recorded no unplanned off-hire periods this year, an outstanding job by the Engine Room department without any immediate technical support on board.

Zero incidents were recorded, but Topaz Xara also impressed by the quality of documentation as well as the timely submission of reports.

Topaz Xara and her crew have also received many commendations from both Seaways (the prime contractor) and BP. Topaz Xara passed a client audit from BP with no observations or Non-Compliance Reports (NCRs) at all, a major achievement.

"The vessel has been run superbly from top to bottom with both Captains Vasily and Rusli leading by example," says the QHSSE report on the Ship of the Year award. "The condition of the vessel is tip top." Added Captain Ivanov: "On behalf of all the crew, I would like to thank Topaz for the continual support which has allowed us to achieve this prestigious award. This award has motivated us to continue to improve our efforts".

STOP CONFERENCE BUILDS PLATFORM FOR PERFORMANCE

The annual STOP (Safety, Operations and Technical Performance) Conference was held on 21st and 22nd February in Dubai, with the theme "Bridging the Gap" – how seagoing staff can be engaged and supported in the delivery of operational excellence.

The first day started with a General Assembly, attended by the Topaz management team led by CEO René Kofod-Olsen with QHSSE, Operations, and Technical staff. Also participating were Masters and Chief Officers from each vessel in the Topaz fleet. Senior management outlined the overall and regional performance reviews for 2015 and looked ahead to 2016. Topaz Xara was named Ship of the Year.

The afternoon session focused on QHSSE, and started with a group exercise and discussion on "Incident Review". Results from the 2015 Safety Culture Survey were presented, with action items; participation in the survey has increased year on year, with the 2015 response rate at 77 percent.

Day one ended with a presentation of upcoming HSE campaigns and projects, including the notable Safety Champion campaign plus a round-up of Safety Observations raised during the year.

The second day's focus was on Operations and Technical matters, notably an introduction to the Self-Verification Program that was launched in 2016. The SVP identifies, documents and supports measurement of key tasks, systems and information that support our day-to-day operations. Measuring performance in these key areas and using the findings to improve delivery means Topaz can maintain its commitment to deliver the safest, most efficient and most effective standards possible in operations. The afternoon session covered Technical Services issues, including discussions on defects and critical equipment failures, vessel technical inspections and new-build projects.

The consensus was that the Conference had established a solid platform for discussion and collaborations. All items raised during the conference will be addressed by identified personnel and will be tracked by the Corporate QHSSE team.

LEGAL UPDATE

INTRODUCING YOUR LEGAL TEAM

We, in the Legal Department of the Topaz Group, are hereby taking the opportunity to present ourselves and to give you a brief insight into our daily tasks and work.

We all sit in the Topaz Corporate Office in Dubai. Many of you have spoken to us on the phone, however we normally do not get outside the office much as we are mostly placed at our desks buried in documents. We have therefore attached some pictures so you can connect a face to our voices.

This is our introduction and we aim to keep you up to date with our work on a regular basis (but not too often)!

MARICEL JAMILANO



My name is Maricel Flores-Jamilano, and I am from the Philippines.

I started working in Topaz as a secretary in February 2008 in the previous engineering branch of Topaz (Nico International).

When an internal vacancy in the Legal Department came up, I decided to grab the opportunity to move and change my career path. I have been with Legal since January 2011.

Through my 8 years in Topaz, I have been in contact with many of you. I have been involved in many of our big financing projects like Project Faith, Project Northstar (Bond) and Project Aurora and I am proud that I have become a part of it.

At the moment, I am responsible for providing corporate secretarial works in respect of all of our subsidiaries, such as keeping up-to-date constitutional documents, carrying out directorship changes, amendment to the company articles, preparing documents for general meetings and dealing with local registered agents. I will be able to provide you with company information, be it the name of directors, country of company formation, ownership structure, or other relevant information that may be required internally and externally in a fast and friendly manner.

The job that I do offers a sense of fulfillment and enriches my life.

On a personal level, I love karaoke singing (exclusively with my family :D), playing badminton, watching basketball games, especially my husband’s games, and spending quality time with my daughter. Sometimes, when Eirin is pestering me, I compose short poems (which she will never get to see)!



Above photo: The Topaz Amani team having a little bit of fun onboard.

ANNA SHILOVSKAYA

I am Anna and I am from St. Petersburg, Russia.

This is me.



And this is also me.



I have been working in Topaz since May 2012.

When I don’t ride my shiny red motorbike around the Emirates, I am busy doing legal work and supporting you.

Much of my day is used for reviewing charter party contracts between Topaz and its clients for the hiring out of our vessels. I have to review such contracts in order to pick up and highlight the possible risks and liabilities which Topaz may incur while performing the contracts and propose alternative clauses to mitigate such risks and liabilities. I am also dealing with our insurers to ensure they are happy with the contracts and do not require additional payments.

Recently, I was reviewing a draft of a contract from a client in which we were to provide services for managing the client’s vessel fleet. The list of onerous provisions came to 33 pages when we completed the review. This is not exceptional, as many of the draft contracts and charter parties reviewed by Legal requires this amount of work.

I have also lately worked on the internal change of ownership and reflagging of Topaz Johor and Topaz Jurong when these vessels were moved to the Caspian region. As these vessels were subject to mortgages with our bank (same as 70% of the Topaz fleet), the work was complex and took a lot of time. Before we could start to prepare the required documents, the banks had to consent to the change of ownership and reflagging of the vessels to Russia. AND it was not actually one bank, but SEVEN of them. It took a total of 2 months to get such consent. Then we had to complete the list of bank requirements for the reflagging. This list contained 60 pages and over 200 items. I was rather tired of documents when we completed this task! But I am glad the vessels are now registered under Russian Flag and working under charter party with the client.

KATIE LENKO HIESS



I am Katie.

I am an English qualified solicitor and have been practising as a shipping lawyer for over 7 years.

After several years practising in law firms in London and Dubai, I joined Svitzer Middle East to establish their regional legal function covering Africa, the Middle East and Asia. I had the opportunity to work with a number of Topaz alumni at Svitzer, but just missed René Kofod-Olsen who departed to join Topaz a few weeks before I arrived.

Just under a year ago, I decided to work independently and established a consulting company in the UAE; happily, this has allowed me the opportunity to work

with Topaz. My current role at Topaz is Legal Consultant, working with the existing legal team and providing general support. Since arriving I have worked on tenders for new projects, corporate matters (including joint ventures), memoranda of understanding for new partnerships, charter parties, employment matters, sale and purchase of assets and disputes. Eirin has furthermore tasked me with improving the procedures of the Legal Department (super fun!).

I have a broad range of experience in a number of jurisdictions, so please feel free to ask questions!

I am a self-confessed fitness obsessive and trained as a fitness instructor in 2014 with Flywheel Dubai where I train (torture) people with weights, resistance bands and a ballet barre part time.

Check it out here: <https://dubai.flywheelsports.com/instructors/katie-lenko>

My husband Mark is also a lawyer, and comes from New Zealand which makes for some interesting household dynamics when it comes to the Rugby World Cup!

GRACE RIVERA

I am Grace and I am from the Philippines.

I have been working with Topaz for 5 years.

Cooking is my escape, the place where I can make things better for my family and myself! Eirin keeps on asking for a sample!

Working in Topaz is quite challenging and an exciting experience with different nationalities, cultures, characteristics and many persons with different points of view.

I am responsible for all filing taking place in Legal and many of you have had emails from me asking to send me contracts that need filing. If you need an original agreement, you can ask me! I also deal with documentation in connection with registration, reflagging, and flag renewal of our vessels and I arrange notarized and legalized documents as required.

I am furthermore “the FIXER” of the Legal Department. I schedule meetings, arrange delivery of documents and try to be ahead of any demands the other persons in Legal may have.

At the moment I am very busy developing a full electronic filing system for all of our documents which will allow us all to manage legal documents better.



EIRIN INDERBERG

I am Eirin. I am a typical Norwegian; love skiing in the winter and boating in the summer.

I joined Topaz last January as the new Head of Legal. I have lived in Dubai for nine years and earlier I worked in a seismic company on level 32 of Almas Tower. By joining Topaz I increased 26 levels!

I try to stay in shape by running, however I am not going to be joining my boss, Jay Daga, on his 5am runs 4 times a week. In the evenings I am primarily nagging my 10-year old daughter about her homework and sometimes trying to fix something in the kitchen. Unlike Grace, and according to my daughter, I am a “terrible” chef. During the weekends, I sometime join my husband at the golf course. I am normally closer to killing someone (especially my husband) than actually finding the green (not to speak of the hole, which by the way is way too small)!



Since I joined, I have mainly been occupied with the Tengiz project; very exciting, but also challenging. I am very happy that we now have concluded the contract and documentation for all the 15 MCVs and it will be exciting to see the project kick off operationally in the safe hands of Alex MacDonald.

I have also involved myself in the financing arrangements of Topaz. Sometimes I regret that; as those contracts are really “thick” and complicated. IF YOU CAN, AVOID THEM!

I have still not managed to learn the name of all of our vessels, our companies or all of my colleagues. But Anna and Maricel are in full control, so I am not worried. During my absence, Anna and Katie have handled the day-to-day business in a very efficient manner and they are really doing a fantastic job!

The Tengiz project has unfortunately prevented me from travelling to all of our offices. I hope to rectify this and meet all of you during the next few months!

I am very grateful for all the support I have received from all of you so far! I feel very welcome in Topaz.

In order to ensure that Legal provides good quality and efficient work, we are currently reviewing and improving all of our procedures and templates. This will be a continuous work for the next few months. In many situations, you will see the result of such work through added involvement, questions and comments from our side, sometimes burdensome. However, we can assure you that the intention is good and that the quality of our end product should improve through such a process.

I am very impressed with the Legal team in Topaz and together we will do our utmost to serve our clients (namely you) and provide contributions that adds value to your efforts and hard work!



Topaz's Career page is now LIVE on LinkedIn!

We are thrilled to announce that our recruiting team has partnered with LinkedIn to promote our employment brand and career opportunities by creating a LinkedIn Careers page. Please help us get the word out so we can continue to build our team. This page is part of our Company page on the LinkedIn professional network, and will enable us to:

- Engage talented professionals and show them what we have to offer
- Connect visitors with relevant jobs to let them know we're hiring at Topaz
- Highlight our company culture, values, and benefits
- Reach a broad audience within an engaging social media platform

Check out our page here:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/topaz-energy-and-marine>

What can I do to help us recruit top talent?

- Encourage people to check out our Career page by sharing it with your connections on LinkedIn
- If people ask you about working at Topaz, direct them to our Career page
- Suggest that your contacts "Follow" Topaz on LinkedIn so they will get updates about our company
- Ensure that you select Topaz as your current company
- If you're not already a LinkedIn member, join today at www.linkedin.com!

How do I share our Career Page on LinkedIn?

- Login to your LinkedIn account
- Navigate to our Careers page:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/topaz-energy-and-marine>
- Click the "Share" button located toward the upper right, just below our number of followers
- Choose how you would like to share the page: post to wall or send to individuals
- Click "Share" in the pop out window



For comments or questions, please email Mairead Mescall at mairead.mescall@topazworld.com