



SOUTHAMPTON FREIGHT SERVICES LTD

IMPORT – EXPORT – AIR FREIGHT – SEA FREIGHT – ROAD FREIGHT – INTL COURIER

SFS NEWS

Spring 2013



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Keeping you... 'in the know'

Welcome to our first edition of SFS News in 2013 – and a belated happy new year to you all!

This edition focuses on information. When working with logistical challenges, information is critical. Misinformation is a disaster. Unfortunately, as many of you will understand, global trade is a minefield of regulatory confusion and mixed signals of what you can, or cannot do. At SFS we understand that correct information is the key to success, so we have created an online 'Information Centre' for you to access important information to assist you, your business and your clients.

Knowledge is the key. At SFS, that door is always open.

JUST LAUNCHED

The SFS Information Centre



We have launched our new online information centre, providing various tools for your business in one central location.

It includes export/import shipping regulations and documentary requirements, global regulations and a download section for certain forms required by various Government departments, both UK and Internationally, plus much more.

We have also included a section detailing local area information, such as the Port of Southampton, the beautiful New Forest on our doorstep or the world renowned University of Southampton. The Information Centre is a continuously evolving series of pages, so remember to check back for any updates.

Our aim is to provide our clients with a central point to access information that can assist your daily routine, or help with answering questions that may be posed relating to the freight industry - such as;

Tracking an air freight consignment or an ocean container

Understand terms of sale, import regulations and download important documentation

Knowing the rate of duty applied to a product at destination

We have segregated the information into categories, making it easy to navigate. Our simple approach enables you to view a number of practical web pages, links, document downloads and important regulations - so there's no need to get your head in a spin! We're here to help.

You can access the information centre here;
www.sotonfreight.co.uk/information-centre

“...a central point to access information that can assist your daily routine...”



SFS Christmas Party!

As a family business we strongly believe in family values and traditions.

Part of our yearly tradition, like many other companies, is to have a Christmas party where our employees and their partners can let their hair down and we can show our appreciation for another year of hard work.

In addition we also have a slightly informal gathering on Christmas eve, or the final working day before the short break, where everyone hands out 'Secret Santa' gifts and tucks into a huge feast prepared by the staff. This year we posted pictures of both events on our social networking sites and we welcome you to browse these pictures and see our 'family spirit' first hand. Unfortunately some pictures have been destroyed to save the reputations of those involved!

To do this, all you need to do is like our Facebook page or follow us on twitter



All smiles at the SFS Christmas Party



SKYcooler and SFS sign 4 year deal

In November 2012 SFS signed a 4 year contract with cool chain solution provider SKYcooler to lease a number of RKN airfreight units for use in our cruise & marine sector.

The units are built specifically to transit commodities that require controlled temperature transport around the world such as fresh or frozen foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, pre-impregnated carbon fibre and fresh flowers, to name just a few.

The units operate using a bespoke temperature control unit powered by a dual line battery power source and a simple yet effective fan system delivering cool air throughout the container from a separate compartment containing dry ice (carbon dioxide). The temperature is regulated using a dual

thermostat, recording an average temperature throughout the insulated inner compartment. Our experience in handling logistics for temperature sensitive cargo, together with SKYcoolers expertise in temperature management provides the perfect platform to offer detailed global solutions to our clients.

Jorgen Veslov, CEO SKYcooler Ltd says; "We have been working with Southampton Freight Services Ltd for more than 5 years now and we are delighted to have been appointed as their long term partner for provision of airline cool containers.

"Each SFS consignment requires a specific constant temperature which the Skycooler cool container manages through the on-board computer. This means that fragile vegetables can be loaded on a freezing winter morning in London and arrive in the afternoon sun of Barbados without suffering from any adverse temperature fluctuations in transit. Similarly



Our Managing Director, Ross Negus, with SKYcooler CEO Jorgen Veslov at our Southampton HQ

“ the perfect platform to offer detailed global solutions to our clients ”

frozen or chilled fish, live oysters and lobsters, herbs and berries can arrive in optimum condition due to the constant desired transit temperature, whether this is -20 or +20 degrees Celsius.

"This assurance provides SFS customers with a secure supply chain service from door to door with easy monitoring at all stages. Their experience has encouraged other airlines to extend their use of SKYcooler cool containers. The latest, Air Mauritius, is expanding the range of services throughout its network, between Europe, Africa & the Far East by using SKYcooler cool containers."

For further information on the SKYcooler products, please visit their website



Did you know...

The use of ice to refrigerate and thus preserve food goes back to prehistoric times. Ice and snow were stored in caves or dugouts lined with straw or other insulating materials. Rationing of the ice allowed the preservation of foods over the warm periods. This practice worked well through the centuries, with icehouses remaining in use into the 20th century.

In the 16th century, the discovery of chemical refrigeration was one of the first steps toward artificial means of refrigeration. Sodium nitrate or potassium nitrate, when added to water, lowered the water temperature and created a sort of refrigeration bath for cooling substances.

The seven metre Christmas tree challenge!

Christmas tree sets sail after epic journey across land, air and sea

Whilst most of us struggle to bring the family Christmas tree home strapped to the roof of the car, Hapag Lloyd Cruises, owners of cruise ship MS Europa, do things with a lot more style – with the help of our Cruise & Marine Logistics Network.

The seven metre Christmas tree greeted the ship's passengers when they congregated in the atrium of MS Europa on Christmas morning was delivered by land, air and water to ensure they enjoy the perfect celebration.

The trees were grown and felled in Austria and started its journey to join up with the cruise ship on the back of a dedicated 12 metre truck being driven across Europe to London. At Heathrow Airport, it took a team of eight cargo handlers to carefully load the tree onto one of Virgin Atlantic's Airbus A340-300 flights to Cape Town, South Africa.

Carsten Leder, Managing Director of Tefra Travel Logistics GMBH, the airfreight logistics provider explains the shipment: "An old German tradition is to deliver high quality trees

onto the vessels for Christmas time. The MS Europa was officially voted the 'Best Cruise vessel in the world' for the 13th consecutive year and therefore the pressure was on to deliver the trees onto the vessel during its port call in Cape Town. Due to the fact that other European air carriers could not move this delicate cargo, we asked our partners at Southampton Freight Services if they could assist. The rest, as they say, is history!"

“ Our close relationship with Virgin Atlantic helped secure the business... ”

Ross Negus, Managing Director of Southampton Freight Services added: "When Carsten put the call in and expressed the delicate nature of this shipment, we knew there was only one airline that could offer the flexibility required. Our close relationship with Virgin Atlantic helped secure the business and we're delighted to have been part of this exciting project".



The beautifully decorated tree on-board the MS Europa after it's cross continent journey



Unloading from the truck



Loading onto the aircraft



Strapped and secure on the passenger aircraft

Thanks to the efforts of Tefra, Southampton Freight and Virgin Atlantic, the beautiful tree, together with 15 smaller trees arrived safely and on-time to board the cruise vessel before it set sail for a five-star Christmas at sea for the ship's 400 guests.

Nick Jones, Head of Sales at Virgin Atlantic Cargo, said: "It may sound like a long journey for a Christmas tree but MS Europa clearly wanted to give their passengers the ultimate customer experience and that's a philosophy we share at Virgin Atlantic."

Did you know...

Customs of erecting decorated trees in wintertime can be traced to Christmas celebrations in Renaissance-era guilds in Northern Germany and Livonia in the 15th century. By the early 18th century, the custom had become common in towns of the upper Rhineland but it wasn't for another century that it became popular among the nobility as far spread as Russia.

Decorating Christmas trees did not spread much beyond the royal family until Queen Victoria married her German cousin Prince Albert. By 1841 the custom became much more widespread throughout Britain.

1940's Scout Tank found in Australia

On a cold and miserably wet autumnal day, late in 2012, our very own Derrick Etherden stands in the pouring rain at Southampton Port, supervising the unloading of a special shipment unloading from a container originating from Australia.



Derrick had been coordinating the customs clearance and release of a very special vehicle for our client, Ben Hawkins, a pattern maker working for a Formula One team. Married with a young family, Ben is a self-proclaimed strange vehicle enthusiast; he enjoys working with 'strange vehicles with tracks' as they have character! The 'strange vehicle' in question is a WW11 Scout Tank. Ben Explains;

"The scout carrier mk1 L built under contract from the government for use in the enlargement of the army due to the expected conflict (ww2). It was built by Aveling Barford in 1939 and delivered on the 14/7 and it carries

the registration RMY 683 (I found it yesterday under the top layers of paint!)"

"Scouts were only really used in two theatres of ww2. France, with the British expeditionary

“ ...the only known surviving scout carrier... ”

force and the retreat at Dunkirk etc, all carriers used were destroyed or captured. The other was north Africa, we think that it served with the British army there until it was abandoned

or adopted by the Australian army. They took it back to Australia (unofficially they were never given any scouts) and there it was used by their home defence army and the pictures of the carrier were taken during an event to publicise war bonds. It was sold after it was of no use to a farmer who wanted the engine. It was found about 5 years ago on the same farm where it had been abandoned by an Australian enthusiast, Phillip Hastings. He had it until it was sold to me earlier this year. You obviously know about the shipping etc from Freemantle to Southampton!"

It's the only known surviving scout carrier left and will be restored by me to it's original working condition. I plan on doing some more research into who used it in the desert and how it came to be in Australia. It's remarkably complete including it's original engine and boxes for ammunition and stowage. Most of the bits had been removed to get the engine out in the 1940's and were found by Phillip scattered around the farm. The dry conditions have helped to preserve it in such fantastic condition. One headlight was missing as the farmer's son remembers taking it off and fixing it to his truck to hunt kangaroos!"

"I've included a photo of the reg number found by carefully sanding the paint off one layer at a time. Let me know if I can be of any more help, if anybody that reads your article can help in any way or had family that served in north Africa or in France with the BEF I'd be pleased to hear from them."

An update from Ben, just prior to launching this story online; "The news is I've started to strip it down ready to sand blast and repair. I believe it was part of a Desert Rat unit used in an attack on Fort Capuzzo in 1940 but I can't confirm this yet. The unit info may be as good as it ever gets, tracing vehicles is particularly hard"

If anyone has information relating to this wonderful story, or would like to know more, please email our managing director, Ross Negus (ross@sotonfreight.co.uk), and he'll put you touch with Ben.

In need of some TLC but still in fabulous condition considering its age!



Supporting Movember

Our driver/warehouse operator Bob Warren may look like he's a member of the Village People but in fact he was growing a moustache in support of Movember.

For those who are unaware, during November each year, Movember is responsible for the sprouting of moustaches on thousands of men's faces in the UK and around the world. The aim of which is to raise vital funds and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and testicular cancer.

You can read more about the Movember on their website





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Local knowledge on a global scale

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