

Sailors' Society COVID-19 emergency appeal

West are delighted to make a charitable donation of £5,000 towards Sailors' Society's COVID-19 emergency appeal.

West has, for many years sought to help transform the lives of seafarers through its support and partnership with Sailors' Society, one of the largest seafarers' welfare organisations in the world and a charity that is especially important during this time of heightened need.

West truly believe that seafarers are on shipping's front line in facing COVID-19, supporting our global supply chains as they continue to operate to supply essential food and goods, including medical supplies. Through practical support, welfare services and vital advisory work on how to protect themselves and crewmates against COVID-19, Sailors' Society is playing a vital role as trusted confidants for the brave crew of the global shipping fleet.

Sandra Welch, Sailors' Society's chief operating officer said: "The vital role performed by our 1.6 million seafarers in these unprecedented times is matched only by the challenges that these men and women are being asked to face. The risks to their wellbeing, concerns about their families and the burden of extended contracts are placing an intolerable strain on our seafarers and they need our support. The full resources of Sailors' Society are being deployed towards our emergency campaign and we are deeply grateful to West for their generous donation."

Sailors' Society is supporting seafarers in a number of ways during this crisis, including providing mental health resources, virtual chaplaincy services and grants for seafarers and their families. The charity is also preparing to temporarily extend their helpline for shipping companies free-of-charge to all seafarers who need support.

To donate to Sailors' Society's COVID-19 emergency appeal, please visit: www.sailors-society.org/coronavirusappeal.