

Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System
U.S. Coast Guard



Press Release

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AMVER ship assists in search for crew of burning fishing vessel

NEW YORK – Rescue authorities in Taiwan requested Amver assistance from U.S. Coast Guard officials to contact and divert the Amver participating ship NSS Fortune to help rescue eight fishermen who abandoned their burning vessel 400 miles southeast of Kagoshima, Japan on Monday, February 9, 2015.

U.S. Coast Guard officials in Guam received a request for assistance from rescue personnel in Taiwan. The Taiwanese were looking for available commercial ships to assist eight fishermen who abandoned their burning vessel.

Using an Amver Surface Picture (SURPIC) the Japanese flagged ship was located 140 miles from the burning fishing vessel. The captain of the NSS Fortune agreed to change course and sail to the distress location

Taiwanese officials later reported a Japanese Coast Guard boat was able to rescue the eight fishermen and the Amver ship was released to continue on its original voyage.

Amver, sponsored by the United States Coast Guard, is a unique, computer-based, and voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea.

The NSS Fortune, managed by Bernhard Schulte Shipmanagement of Germany, enrolled in Amver on November 24, 2003 and has earned seven Amver participation awards.

With Amver, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond. Vessels send periodic position reports to the Amver center until arriving at their port of call.

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This data is able to project the position of each ship at any point during its voyage. In an emergency, any rescue coordination center can request this data to determine the relative position of Amver ships near the distress location. On any day there are over 7,000 ships available to carry out search and rescue services. Visit <http://www.amver.com> to learn more about this unique worldwide search and rescue system.

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