

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



Press Release

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Contact: Benjamin Strong
(212) 232-3862 office
(917) 545-6676 mobile
benjamin.m.strong@uscg.mil

AMVER participating OSV and Russian tanker assist in search for fishing vessel

NEW YORK – The Amver participating offshore supply vessel (OSV) Harvey Falcon and the tanker Moscow University assisted in the search for the fishing vessel Captain Mike after a 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) alert was received from the fishing vessel 170 miles off the coast of Galveston, Texas on Wednesday, February 4, 2015.

U.S. Coast Guard rescue authorities at the Eighth District Command Center received the EPIRB alert and launched a search aircraft from Air Training Center Mobile, Ala. Rescue personnel also used the Amver system to locate the 239-foot offshore supply vessel and Liberian flagged tanker to assist in the search operation.

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 Moscow University made call outs on the radio but was unable to make contact with the Captain Mike. The Coast Guard aircraft was able to locate the fishing vessel and the crew of the Captain Mike said their EPIRB was malfunctioning. The OSV Harvey Falcon also made contact with the fishing vessel and confirmed there was no distress. The Amver ships were released.

The OSV Harvey Falcon, managed by Harvey Gulf International Marine of New Orleans, La. enrolled in Amver on April 1, 2011 and has earned four Amver participation awards.

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The Moscow University, managed by Unicom Management of Cyprus, enrolled in Amver on April 6, 1999 and has earned six 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. 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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