

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



## Press Release

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### **CANADIAN AMVER PARTICIPANT RESCUES PASSENGERS FROM FIREY FERRY**

**NEW YORK** – On the morning of July 24 the Amver participating merchant vessel Federal Rhine rescued 10 survivors from the burning trans-island ferry Katrina.

The Federal Rhine, operated by the Montreal based shipping line FedNav, noticed the burning ferry in the Philippine Sea and quickly assumed search and rescue mission coordinator requesting another nearby ship to assist in rescue efforts.

During rescue operations the master of the Federal Rhine coordinated with the Philippine coast guard, maritime rescue coordination center Manila, and the United States Coast Guard Amver center in West Virginia.

Within six hours of finding the burning ferry, the crew of the Federal Rhine safely transferred all the survivors to search and rescue authorities from the Bongao province.

According to survivors, the Katrina was on a voyage from Sanga Sanga Island to Bongao when it caught fire.

The Amver system is a voluntary, worldwide ship reporting system. Prior to sailing, participating ships send a sail plan to the Amver computer center. Vessels then report every 48 hours 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 given day there are over 3,200 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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