

Piracy and Armed  
Robbery at Sea  
EC Seminar Brussels  
3 March 2010



Prior Planning and  
Preparation – Worst  
Case Knowledge  
“From Capture to  
Release”



**BIMCO**



# BIMCO

## BIMCO – who we are...

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1988: The Baltic and International Maritime Council

1905: The Baltic and White Sea Maritime Conference

- Membership organization
- 2500 members in 123 countries
- Owners, port agents, brokers, insurers, lawyers
- Industry Advocate
  - International
  - Regional
  - Local
- Industry advisor

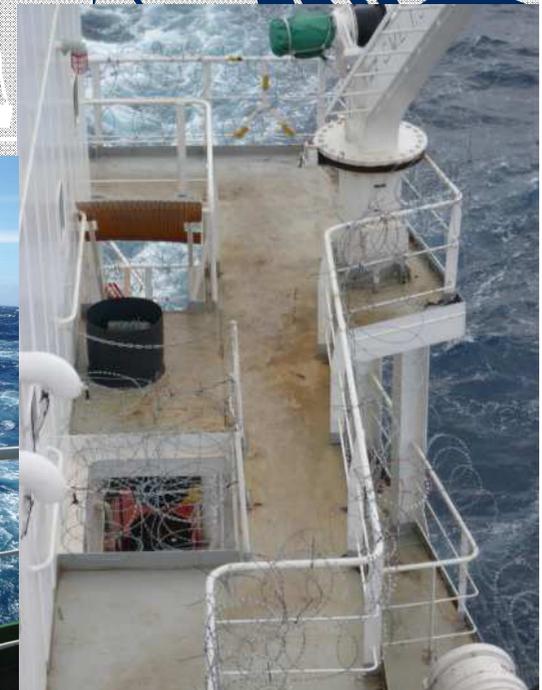


# A more robust approach



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- Reporting to UKMTO
- Awareness and implementation of counter-piracy measures
- Deployment of non-lethal deterrents
- Reporting of incidents
- Ship design



# Industry Efforts



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- Bimco - "From Capture to Release" Guidelines for Companies and Masters in the Event of Being Taken by Pirates off the Coast of Somalia
- ISF – "The Human Element – Piracy Guidance for the Company"
- CGPCS – WG3 Addressing
- IMO – MSC Addressing

# From Capture to Release What Happens if Captured ?



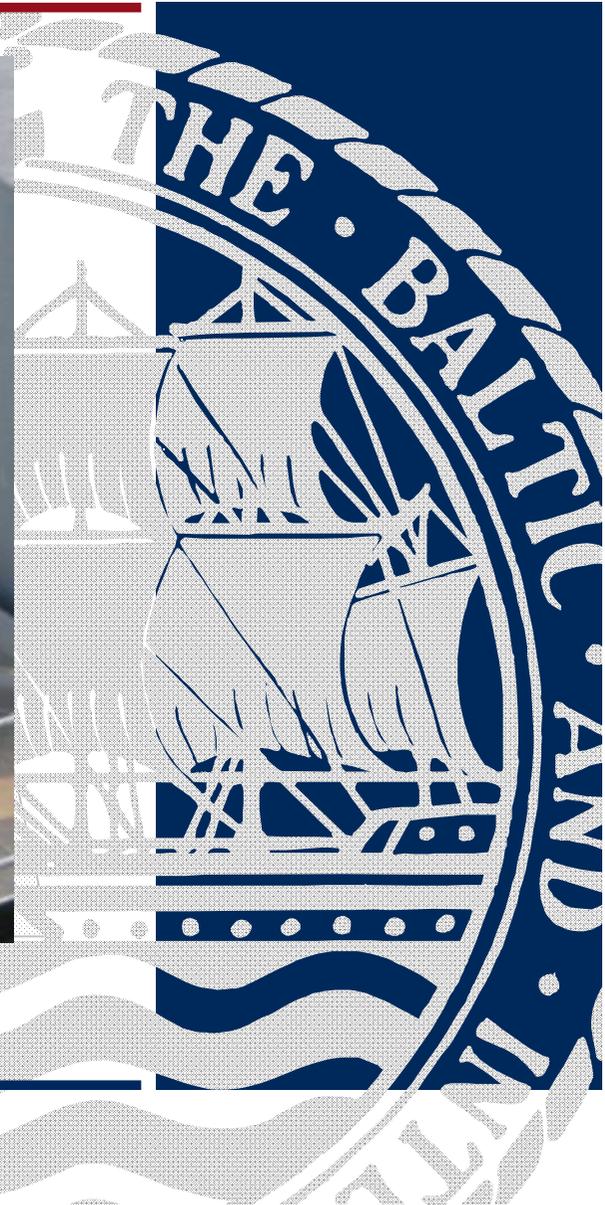
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# From Capture to Release What Happens in Captivity ?



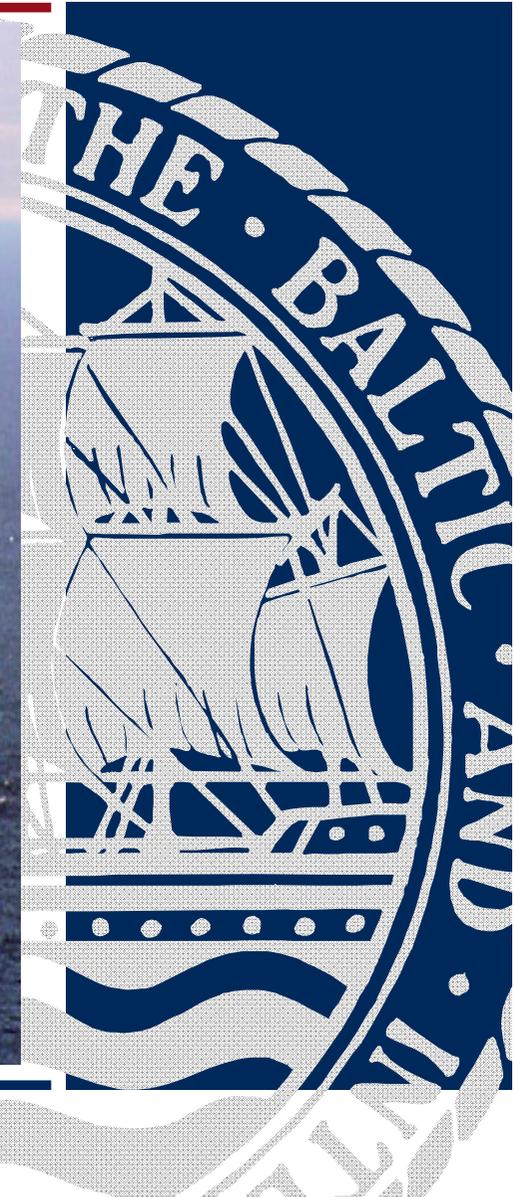
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# From Capture to Release What Happens on Release ?



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# Capture – Guidelines for Masters



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- Immediate Action
  - Hold and use bridge "flash" cards listing actions and company policy in accordance with BMP
  - Report state of vessel and crew if possible
  - Assume SSAS has worked – company will be following crisis management procedures
- Master's Action
  - Key instruction to crew – no heroics – has two objectives – 1. safety of his crew and vessel and 2. the departure of pirates
- Crew Action
  - Be calm! Compliant! Co-operate!

# Company Immediate Action & Crisis Management (CM)



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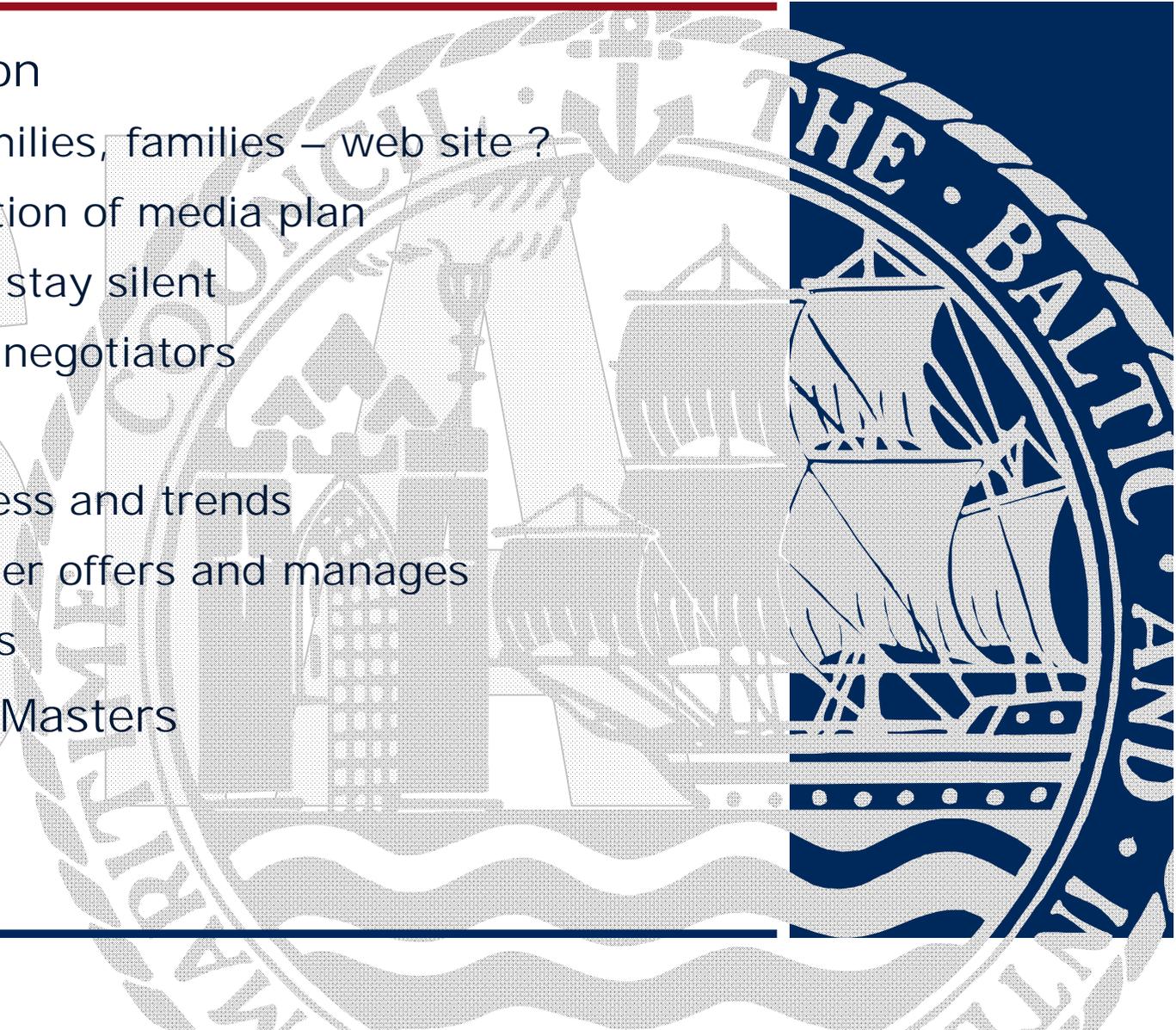
- Onset of the Crisis – Immediate Action:
  - Co-ord agreed strategy with all stakeholders
  - Utilise window of opportunity
  - Implement rehearsed CM Piracy Plan
  - Keep families in the picture
- Negotiations
  - Use of professionals
  - Single POC – not necessarily CEO/MD
  - Time and costs analysis – early
  - Media plan – avoid contact with the press
  - Communications plan and control
  - Master only a "facilitator" not negotiator

# Ongoing CM by Company



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- Company Action
  - Families, families, families – web site ?
  - Implementation of media plan
  - Ensure crew stay silent
  - Daily liaison negotiators
- Negotiations
  - Typical process and trends
  - Owner counter offers and manages
  - Beware ruses
- Guidelines for Masters

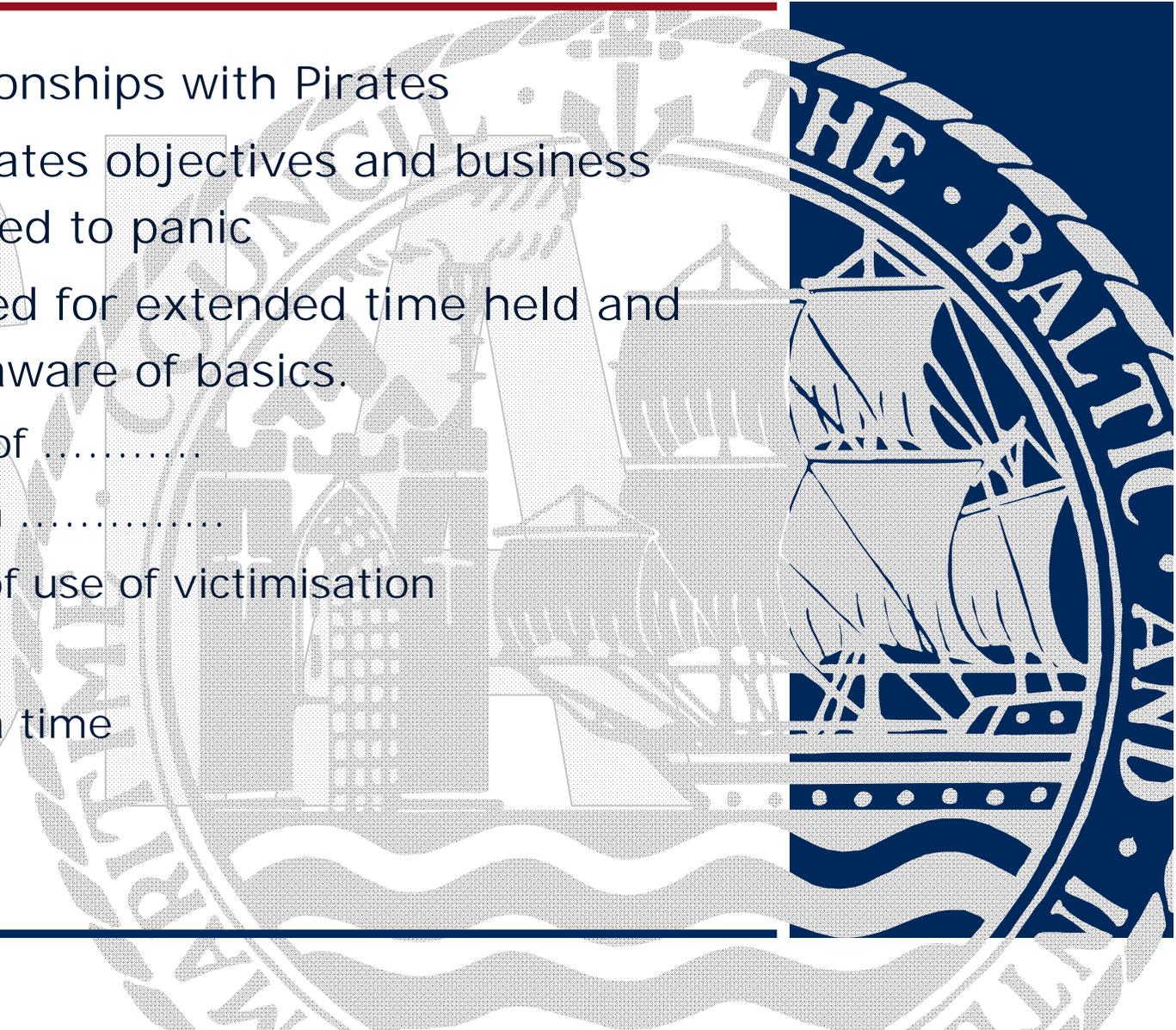


# Guidelines for Masters in Captivity



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- Masters Relationships with Pirates
- Remember Pirates objectives and business model – no need to panic
- But be prepared for extended time held and apply and be aware of basics.
  - Acceptance of .....
  - Rapport with .....
  - Knowledge of use of victimisation
  - Stay neutral
  - One day at a time



# Preparations for Release



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- Company Management of Release – Requires Advance planning – from outset
  - Long check list – vessel recovery/ emergency repairs/ bunkers/ emergency relief/ repatriation etc etc
  - Safe Haven recovery plan – again to cover many exigencies from MEDEVAC to Media to visitors to families etc etc
  - Ransom payment and logistics – minimise time to release - Delivery Plan
- Masters Considerations - Relief but immediate actions
  - Casualties ?
  - Establishing ships routines
  - Debriefings - moral and comms
  - Immediate fall out – psychological first aid

# Release



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- Company Management of the Release
  - Dangerous time - riskiest time
  - Confusing time – pirates take time to leave
  - Master needs detailed instructions immediately
  - Implement pre prepared emergency plans
  - Consider food, medical, clothing , finance
- Guidelines for Masters
  - Debrief Ashore
  - Retention of evidence
  - Report writing
  - Incident report to MSCHOA

# Post Release Summary



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- Return to safety and normality a healer
- Longer term fall out
- Prepare for the worst case
- Encourage crew to seek help if necessary
- Counselling should be made available.
- Company review of events, plans and lessons learnt
- Aftercare support – including families
- The above the ongoing work of WG3 /IMO and SCI.

# Summary

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- Failing to plan is planning to fail
  - The crisis management of capture to release is an owner's responsibility to address fully and effectively
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