

GM

NEWSLETTER

COVID 19 SPECIAL EDITION

APRIL-MAY 2020

02

UPDATE FROM
OUR CEO

09

GM DEALING WITH COVID
TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

05

MENTAL HEALTH DURING
LOCKDOWN
NEW COLLEAGUES!

10

THE WINGS FOR LIFE
WORLD RUN

08

GM OFFICE SPOTLIGHT:
HOUSTON, US

11

GLOBAL MARITIME'S
FIRST WEBINAR; A SUCCESS!

UPDATE FROM OUR CEO

02
CEO UPDATE

WRITTEN BY JONNY LOGAN

I THINK IT IS SAFE TO SAY, THAT 2020 HAS NOT GONE THE WAY THAT MANY PEOPLE EXPECTED

For Global Maritime, the timeline of the impact and our response to COVID-19 began in January; when for many (myself included) a 'Coronavirus' was something that you felt the morning after drinking too much Mexican beer. However, as news of the outbreak in Wuhan began to widely circulate, so did the understanding of what this meant, and the potential implications for the global population, and of course for GM.

First to be directly impacted was our Shanghai office who had to rapidly adjust to working from home and under strict travel restrictions, and who did so with real grace. At this stage, cases of the virus were being identified in other places in the Asia Pacific region, such as Singapore, Japan and other surrounding countries, who also began to feel the impact of mitigation restrictions. At this time, GM was closely following and implementing the advice of the WHO & CDC as regards travel restrictions and precautions. Planned travel by GM personnel from Europe to Asia and vice-versa was postponed and quarantines were imposed for personnel showing associated symptoms.

During February, things changed quickly. Sudden outbreaks of the virus in South Korea, Iran and Italy began to show the world just how rapidly things could get out of control if the spread of the disease (by this stage formally named COVID-19) went unnoticed and unchecked for even a few days. The situation that developed onboard the Diamond Princess cruise liner (quarantined in Yokohama, Japan) also increased the understanding of how easily the virus could be spread in situations where people were living in close proximity.



However, it was during March that things changed most rapidly for the majority of our staff. Those of us living in the Middle East, Europe and the Americas suddenly found ourselves facing the kinds of restrictions to our daily and working lives that some of our colleagues in Asia had been dealing with for some time. In the space of just two weeks, all our largest offices had to adjust to working remotely and balancing childcare with work, due to school closures.

As a critical addition, we faced the real challenge of trying to maintain our non-office based work amid the escalating restrictions on travel and, most importantly, whilst taking steps to mitigate the increased risk from the

virus that is associated with any kind of travel or interaction with others.

The latter issue is one of the most serious issues that GM has had to face. As many people will have been aware, the availability of simple PPE and things like hand sanitizer has been very challenging in some areas, although thankfully now improving. In addition, there is the added risk of lack of clarity as to the measures our clients, and other parties, are enforcing in their personnel and work sites. This lead to a small number of isolated cases where we were concerned that our personnel were, or could have been, put at risk by the actions of others.

In all of this, the most crucial consideration is the safety of our personnel, and in this situation, that also means that of their families and others they may come into contact with. This has been the primary focus of GM during this time. However, it is a difficult element to balance against the large reliance that the business has on operations that involve travel and attendance onboard vessels and at worksites. The company relies on this work for its very existence, and our clients rely on our services for the safe and efficient execution of their projects.

To balance these two factors, GM has gone to great effort to facilitate the provision of our services in a manner that minimises the need for travel and personal interaction. The current situation highlights even more the value of our eDP system; whilst similarly, we have developed tools for performing remote vessel inspections and are actively participating in discussions with our clients and the insurance underwriting market as regards to Warranty approvals of certain types of operation, via remote means. We have also been continuing our sales and business development efforts remotely, including hosting a very successful Webinar (part of a series that we will continue now) on GMOpsim and its benefits in

optimising operational logistics. More on that later in this newsletter.

The COVID-19 crisis has also had a profound, but indirect effect on Global Maritime. A large proportion of our business relates to work in the oil & gas sector. The worldwide restrictions on travel and closure of many businesses has led to a large reduction in oil demand globally. As a result, and despite agreements by producing countries to limit production, supply of oil has far exceeded demand in recent weeks. The result has been a crash in oil prices of unprecedented proportions over a very short time. Mid and long-term forecasts indicate that this is not likely to recover quickly, and this presents challenges for many of our key clients and will likely see reductions in spending and changes to project plans and schedules that will directly impact GM.

This all sounds like bad news, and perhaps it is. However, there is also a lot of good news. As regards to COVID-19; rates of new infections and lives lost is decreasing world-wide. Many countries are beginning to lift restrictions and a “new normal” is being established. Progress towards a vaccination against the virus is progressing and technology such as applications that can track contact with infected people are close to development and may allow a far greater level of control over the outbreak.

For Global Maritime we have a strong backlog of work, and although a large proportion of our business is oil and gas, we are less reliant on the areas of the oil and gas market which are likely to be the worst affected.

In addition to our expertise in areas such as shipping, aquaculture and infrastructure, GM are also a force to be reckoned with in offshore renewable energy; and this is an area which will continue to see strong growth in the coming months and years. Despite the dark times we live

in currently, the future is bright for GM.

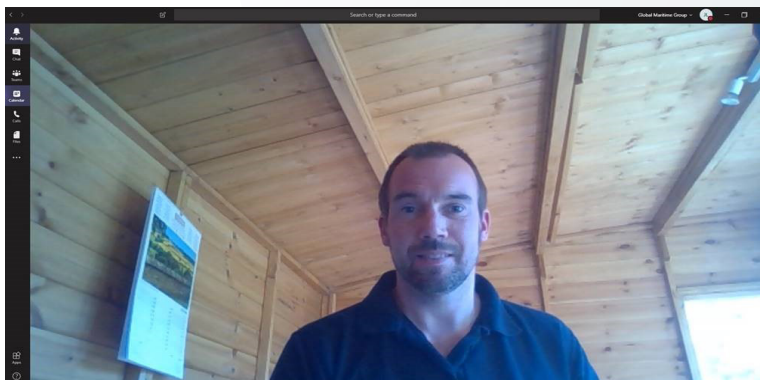
Lastly, I'd like to extend a vote of thanks to the most important element of all. Our company is simply empty offices, coveralls and laptops, without our staff. The last few weeks and months have seen enormous challenges for our people; some personal, such as knowing people (including friends and family) who have been directly affected by the virus or who have lost their livelihoods as a result of its impact; or concern for their safety or that of those around them. Some of the challenges have been logistical, such as juggling childcare and home-schooling with the pressures of work. And of course there are things like cancelled plans and restrictions on our daily lives. All of these things (and many more) added together have a very profound impact; but despite this it's been overwhelming how our Global Team has pulled-together, remained positive and continued to work together for the business and for each other.

The adjustment to large-scale home-working was one of the most impressive elements,

and I'd like to thank everyone for their efforts and commitment in making that transition impressively seamless.

On a lighter note, the normality of remote working and increased phone and video calls hasn't been without its funnier sides. Family appearing in the background of video calls has become a very much accepted normal. But I did have to laugh when I heard the phrase **"Daddy, are you talking to those boring work people... AGAIN!"** broadcast to many on one call, and those involved will probably remember the incident recently where two escaped sheep made an appearance on one of my calls.

Being serious again, there is no doubt that the current situation is one of the most disruptive, concerning and uncertain periods that many of us have experienced. Despite this, we have the situation under control, and if we continue to face this thing with the positive approach and good humour that we have so far, then we will get through this together.



Home working has been one of the features of the COVID crisis and our staff have opted for a wide range of solutions to make this most effective. Here we see JL, working from his home office, outdoors in a shed on the farm where he lives.

MENTAL HEALTH IN LOCKDOWN

06
HR:

WRITTEN BY SARAH JAMES

As we all know these days, mental health is just as important as physical health, especially during this time of stress and disruption to our daily routines. For most of us, working remotely is usually an ad hoc arrangement or a set one or two days per week, so it is difficult to get to grips with a longer-term change and all that it entails. We've put together some thoughts and ideas that may help you to keep yourself and your colleagues engaged, productive and motivated during this time.

Create a sense of routine

You might not be able to work your usual hours but for most people it helps to have some regularity of hours. It will also help your colleagues to have a clear, consistent idea of when they might be able to contact you.

Whether you're a tea or coffee drinker, a yoga practitioner or a power walker, find something that will become the official start to your working day. Some regular remote workers leave the house and 'walk to work' on a circular route, others designate a specific working space and only use that for work. Find what works for you to give you that sense of mentally stepping away from home and in to work.

Set ground rules with the people sharing your space

Set ground rules with other people in your home or who share your space for when you work and what meetings you may have that day, where possible. Difficult with home schooling if that's something you are doing but speak to your manager about what hours you will need to work if that applies.

Schedule regular breaks, and take them

All employees wherever they are working, are entitled to regular breaks and these are an important part of your wellbeing. If you're not going to have your manager or colleagues to remind you



to take breaks, schedule them in using Outlook or your phone, set MS Teams or Skype to 'do not disturb', and make sure you give yourself a physical rest from sitting at your desk and looking at your screen.

Take annual leave or sick days when you need to

As with working in the office, if you need to book leave then do so in discussion with your line manager and use your out of office.

If you are unwell, notify your line manager as you usually would as early as possible on the first day of illness, and let them know when you expect to be able to work again. Stay in touch with them and make sure you're both up to date with what's happening.

Think about wellbeing and lifestyle habits

Disruption, changes to the established norms and isolation can all have a very direct and serious impact on mental health.

Communication will help hugely with this so make sure you are connecting with friends and family, maybe try a virtual quiz over Zoom. Connect with colleagues virtual "coffee mornings" to catch up socially, not just about work. It's also important to be active where you can - if you can get out daily and get some fresh air and be around nature it can help to lift the spirits.

If you have a local Employee Assistance Program do make use of it or speak to your local HR representative for more information. The UK mental health charity "Mind" have also issued some excellent guidance for individuals worried about the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on their mental wellbeing.

The best way to keep yourself well is to boost your immune system by adopting a healthy diet and lifestyle. Here are some immune-boosting foods you could incorporate into your diet:

- Garlic, ginger and turmeric
- Sweet red peppers
- Kiwi fruit, oranges, lemons grapefruit
- Blueberries, strawberries, raspberries
- Leafy green vegetables; kale, spinach, chard
- All brassicas; broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower
- Mushrooms, especially shiitake and oyster
- Sunflower seeds and almonds
- Green tea and matcha

Take in a show

Andrew Lloyd Webber is giving fans the opportunity to experience the London West End from the comfort of your own home. Next on the bill – Phantom of the Opera!

Play the spoons

Learn the basics with the amazing Abby the Spoon Lady.

Sign up to Hogwarts

Choose a house, enrol in classes, such as potions, and take real assignments to become a real life Harry Potter.

A virtual tour

Take a virtual "walk" through some of the worlds most prestigious cultural institutions; museums, zoos and rollercoasters for the brave! With many UK parks, gardens and properties closed, download the Candide app for audio tours of famous gardens, and wander around from your armchair.

What the experts think

Dive into the library of TEDx Talks by experts in education, science, tech, creativity and more. You can also catch up on the most popular talks of all time.

Karaoke nights

Fancy a sing-a-long with your mates? Apps like AirConsole let you turn your smartphone into a mic and sing your favourite hits.

Take a course

Alison.com is an online learning platform with a wide range of courses in many subjects to access for free.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW COLLEAGUES

WRITTEN BY SARAH JAMES

Although the Covid situation is proving challenging for Global Maritime we're very happy to welcome the following new colleagues to our organization.

Alasdair Barclay:

Marine Lead, Abu Dhabi

Anja E. Føli:

Senior Engineer Risk & Safety, Bergen

Bianca Bevan:

Senior Engineer, Singapore

Helene Gulliksen:

Project Administrator, Oslo

Adivar Coutinho Rodrigues Junior:

Engineering Surveyor, Doha

Sarah Flynn:

Project Controller, St. Johns

GM OFFICE SPOTLIGHT: HOUSTON

08

GM OFFICE SPOTLIGHT:
HOUSTON

WRITTEN BY ERIC FRANK

The Houston office is proud to celebrate our 23rd year in 2020. AGMI was officially incorporated by Jack Mercier in April of 1997 and grew quickly. Over the years, AGMI has been fortunate to be involved in some of the world's largest offshore installation projects and established itself as an expert in TLP design and installation.

AGMI has changed as the offshore industry changed. Beyond traditional construction MWS and Dynamic Positioning, we have offered design engineering, Marine Contracting and Towmaster services. Recently, AGMI has been pursuing the Offshore Wind Farm Market in the US and has been fortunate to be involved in some of the earliest project installations.

Driven by the changes in the offshore oil and gas over the past few years, AGMI has shifted to a model which emphasizes subcontractors and new markets where possible. In addition to pursuing Offshore Wind, we have performed large pre-FEED studies for Exxon and Chevron, focused on MWS and rig moving work in Mexico, Decommissioning in the Gulf of Mexico, and DP in Brazil.

Led by our Country Manager, Eric Frank, AGMI has settled in with our core staff of Marine and DP surveyors, and Engineers. **We are able to offer significant expertise and flexible response to our clients anywhere in the Americas.**

Houston is one of the most multi-cultural cities in the United States, driven by the International companies which have large presences here. Our office is no different, with our staff representing 4 countries and our subcontractors many more.

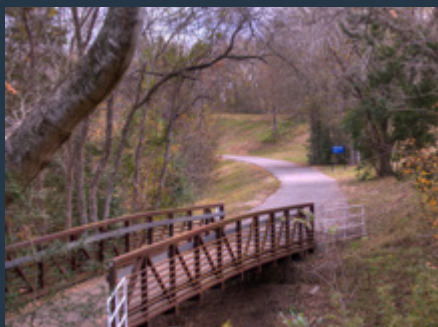
APRIL-MAY 2020

HOUSTON, US

Located in the midst of the Energy Corridor, our new office (just down the road from our original office) is ideally located for our business, with Wood Group, Technip, Subsea7, McDermott, Shell, ConocoPhillips, and BP only minutes away. With so much work to do, you may be surprised to see the recreation biking trails, wildlife, and even fishing within a few minutes of our front door.



Wildlife...



Recreation trails within a few minutes from our offices

We are all working from home as the rest of Global Maritime. Stay safe!



Coping the with Covid-19 Virus: GM Eric Frank's three boys playing basketball to blow out some steam



GM Sameer Raghuwanshi's daughter practicing her 'Classywalk' at home!

DEALING WITH COVID TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

09
GLOBAL PROJECTS

WRITTEN BY
SCOTT GREGOR & HANNAH CRUTCHLEY

GLOBAL MARITIME SUCCESSFULLY REPATRIATES SURVEYOR HOME WITH THE HELP FROM NGS.

Global Maritime had a recent project which involved the **tow of the floatel, Safe Bristolia, from Haugesund, Norway to Aliaga, Turkey** where the rig was to be scrapped.

GM was acting as MWS for the tow and as part of this we arranged an appropriate experienced mariner, Stephan Whelan, to attend on the lead to vessel, Carl Martello for the duration of the tow.

Stephen travelled to Haugesund on 10th March and joined the Carl Martello before the lockdown had been implemented in Norway and UK and therefore this presented no issues. The tow departed Norway on 14th March and after some rough weather at the start, the tow progressed very well en route to Aliaga.

As the tow progressed it became apparent that Stephen would not be able to leave the vessel after the handover of the rig at Aliaga as all disembarkation in Turkey had been banned. We engaged with the tug owners and with NGS to try and identify a solution and the best way to get Stephen home.

The Tug owners were happy for Stephen to remain on the vessel until the next port after Aliaga which eventually turned out to be Augusta in Sicily. Global Maritime's Scott Gregor, Manager of our offices in Scotland and NGS discussed the limited solutions due to the tight travel restrictions and very limited flights. NGS continued to be very flexible with the plans for Stephen's repatriation, as there was initially uncertainty on the next port. The tow arrived in

Aliaga on 14th April and following handover of the rig the Carlo Martello departed the same day heading to Augusta. They arrived in Augusta on 17th April and following very good cooperation between the vessel Master, the local authorities, the agent and NGS, Stephen managed to get off the vessel and flew home on 18th April, arriving home that evening.

NGS acted very professionally and made the repatriation of Stephen appear to be very straightforward in these very difficult times, advising Stephen on what he needed to do during the journey and keeping all parties advised of his progress at all stages through to his arrival into the UK.



GLOBAL MARITIME JOINED THE WINGS FOR LIFE WORLD RUN ON SUNDAY 3rd OF MAY

10
**WINGS FOR LIFE
WORLD RUN**

WRITTEN BY **THOR KAVLI**

Global Maritime joined the Wings for Life World Run the past Sunday. Due to the Covid virus the run was different this year, with everyone running by themselves or in pairs with the new Wings for World Run app.

The Wing for Life is a not-for-profit spinal cord research foundation. Their mission is to find a cure for spinal cord injury. In total Global Maritime employees ran a total of 130,2 km! Here is a selection of photos taken during the run:

APRIL-MAY 2020



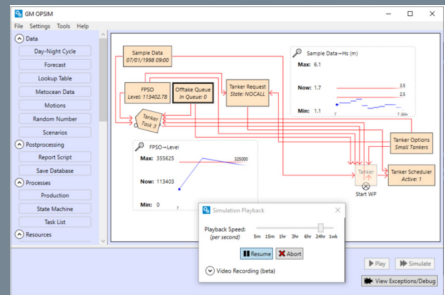
GLOBAL MARITIME'S FIRST WEBINAR, A SUCCESS!

WRITTEN BY **THOR KAVLI**

In April Global Maritime concluded their first webinar with great success.

The Webinar was called 'Event Based Simulations for Operational Decision Support' and was a presentation of our experience with Event Based Simulations and how these can prove very valuable in real life operations of offshore projects. The Webinar also included an update of the latest version on the GM Opsim tool, and its capabilities. About 60 external participants joined from oil operators, subsea contractors, rig owners and ship owners, all contributing to an interesting Q&A session at the end.

11
GLOBAL PROJECTS



In the coming months we aim to host regular webinars and we hope you will be able to join us. Follow us on LinkedIn for updated on what and when.

In case you missed it : Please see our YouTube channel for a full recording of the webinar.

youtube.com/watch?v=oNoLOflimb0