

BLUE PACIFIC

The official newsletter of DNR Offshore and Crewing Services, Inc.



GULF OF MEXICO (WHY ARE THERE SO MUCH OIL?)

AFROM: LIVE SCIENCE

We all know that Oil is the lifeblood of most industries not only in the U.S. but worldwide. The advent of electric vehicles might not change the reliance of most transportation from oil & gas unless it is soon perfected by modern science.

Going back to the Gulf, the big question is where did all that oil come from anyway?

It is believed that the creation of black gold started with the remnants of tiny organisms that lived millions of years ago, but the exact chemical transformation is somewhat mysterious.

Geologists do know, however, that the Gulf of Mexico's ancient past has created a present-day oil driller's dream.

The Gulf of Mexico is a place where the conditions were right to create the kind of proteo-materials for oil and gas," said marine geologist Harry Roberts of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. "Plus the geology was right to transform them and then to trap them."

The main reason the Gulf of Mexico is such a hotbed for oil and gas exploration today is because it is stuffed full of so-called source rocks. These rocks were formed millions of years ago during the Cretaceous, pre-Cretaceous and Upper Jurassic eras, "when dinosaurs were out running around," Roberts said. These rocks, however, were created by something much smaller than dinosaurs — layers of algae on the bottom of the Gulf.

Most geologists think the petroleum we pump from the ground (and later refine into gasoline and other fuels) comes predominantly from the fossils of marine life, such as algae and plankton. Back when the Gulf of Mexico was just starting to form, it began breaking apart like the Red Sea is today, creating tidal flats, which are coastal wetlands that crop up when tides and rivers dump mud in an area. These swampy wetlands became home to algal mats, which are lipid-rich organic materials.

Algal mats grew all around the perimeter of the early Gulf, but over time, massive sediment flow — ultimately the result of the Rocky Mountain rising out of the ground — eventually buried the remains of these algal mats — turning them into source rocks — deep within the Earth. The scorching temperatures within the Earth then cooked the source rocks, turning them from lipid-rich to oil-and-gas-rich.

Today, this oil and natural gas has moved back up to the sea floor, due to natural pathways within the Earth. These pathways are especially abundant in the Gulf of Mexico, said Roberts, who, along with colleagues, has mapped over 8,000 oil and gas seeps in the Gulf of Mexico.

OCT 2021 ISSUE

**This cover has been designed using resources from Freepik.com



A MORE FORCEFUL ACTION PLAN

AHEAD of the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow in November, the International Energy Agency (IEA) is sending a clear message to the participating world leaders that they need to come up with a more forceful action plan if they expect to meet or even come close to the target of reducing global warming.

The IEA's dire outlook is that carbon emissions, the main culprit in global warming, will drop by just 40 percent by 2050 even if donor countries deliver on their pledge to raise \$1 billion a year until 2020 to fund climate change programs. They didn't.

Now the IEA said the stakes have been raised, and as much as \$4 trillion is needed over the next decade to reach the zero carbon emission goal.

That can be realized only if efforts to wean the world off fossil fuels and switch to clean and renewable energy are stepped up significantly, the IEA believes.

For the moment, however, the reverse is happening. With more industries reopening following a long shutdown because of the coronavirus pandemic, the demand for coal has surged, contributing to the second largest increase in carbon dioxide emissions in history.

"We are witnessing an unsustainable recovery from the pandemic," noted the IEA executive director Fatih Birol.

The transition is not happening fast enough. Renewables only make up 20 percent of the world's energy supply.

"The world is not investing enough to meet its future energy needs...transition-related spending is gradually picking up but remains far short of what is required to meet rising demand for energy services in a sustainable way," the IEA said.

To accelerate the pace, the major economies need to do more in helping poorer countries become more resilient to climate change. The IEA sees renewable energy as the catalyst that will bring about that resiliency.

Clean energy investment needs to triple by 2030, most of it aimed at developing nations that have long been victims of the ebb and flow of fuel prices in the world market. IEA proposes that 70 percent of the \$4 trillion investment to achieve net zero emission flows to developing economies.

In return, emerging economies must commit to reducing their carbon emissions and establish the environment that will entice private investors in renewables to come in.

Funding agencies like the World Bank and International Monetary Fund can be mandated to prioritize investments in clean energy ventures in developing countries, the IEA said.

Economic returns

The economic returns of embracing clean energy are vast, the agency said. Renewable projects could create 13 million jobs. The production of wind turbines, solar panels, lithium-ion batteries and other related products could blossom into a \$1-trillion-a-year industry.

A developing country should be made to realize that if "if you invest in old energy sources, dirty energy sources, you are risking to lose your money. If you invest in clean energy, you'll make handsome profits," the IEA said.

Renewable energy investors may find the Philippines an attractive destination. We have hydropower, geothermal and solar energy, and wind power and biomass resources, but they contribute only 26.44 percent of the country's electricity needs.

Under the Renewable Energy Act, investors in renewable energy production are entitled to tax reductions and funding assistance from government and third parties.

So far, the government has failed to lure enough investors largely because of high transaction costs, social engineering costs, lack of suitable local technology and caps on electricity prices.

These obstacles need to be cleared if the country expects to benefit from the new focus on clean energy once the move from fossil fuels gains momentum.

We cannot afford to be left out of this energy transition.

SOURCE: The Manila Times



OFFSHORE OIL & GAS ENERGY NEWS CONDENSATION

Post-Ida, Royal Dutch Shell's 100,000-barrel/day Ursa and the other 60,000-barrel/day Mars offshore platforms have been shut since the onslaught of Hurricane Ida disrupted the U.S. oil industry in late August. Shell had said their restarts are pending the completion of repairs to a transfer facility known as West Delta 143, or WD-143.

However, Royal Dutch Shell is hoping to restart its Ursa oil and gas platform in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico as early as the first half of November, according to a reliable source who requested to remain anonymous because the information isn't public.

As per available Louisiana State data for the month of July 2021, prior to Ida's wrath, the Mars Pipeline, which receives sour crude from various production fields that gets marketed as Mars Blend, transported over 480,000 barrels a day of supplies.

The platforms are invaluable to the production of U.S. sour crude. Hurricane Ida like Katrina before, created a vast impact on the oil industry, resulting in the loss of 30 million barrels of offshore production.

Only last month, Shell estimated the two production platforms would be offline until the first quarter of 2022. Earlier this month the company restored service to the Olympus field, after making fixes to a portion of that facility.

In the meantime, Shell expects the WD-143 facility to restart by first half of November; the company said in a statement. Once the facility is operational, the Mars Oil Pipeline is expected to resume normal operations as producers ramp up production.

Europe faces possible energy blockades as winter gas crisis worsens
By VANESSA DEZEM AND RACHEL MORISON on 10/22/2021

Europe's governments are on a quandary on how to prevent their countries to turn into a large freezer heading into winter and facing an unprecedented energy squeeze.

Looming political and economic crisis is in the horizon should the shortages worsen, European governments could resort to curbing sales of natural gas and power to other regions. An even more extreme scenario could see them halt flows to one another.

Marco Alvera, CEO of Italian Energy Infrastructure company Snam SpA was quoted as saying: "If it gets very cold, even within Europe you will see countries say: 'I have the gas inside my borders and I am going to pass an urgent safety measure that no one can export for the next two weeks'," "I have been threatened in several countries over the last 20 years. Political priority is to keep your constituency." He further said. At 77% full (EU's gas tank), the percentage was way below the normal level particularly this period leaving members especially vulnerable during severe winter months.

Here are possible scenarios that would compel European politicians to turn off the switches and which countries are the most vulnerable.

Are governments threatening to block exports?

Climbing energy prices increases the risk of European governments suspending its exports while at the moment nobody's talking.

Norway's Center Party Leader, which may soon be part of the coalition government, said that he was assessing whether it is legal to cut sales to the EU. Being one of Europe's biggest energy exporter, Norway have incurred a seven-fold price increases since last year. Serbia might ban electricity exports to ensure that "people have warm homes," President Aleksandar Vucic said this month. And France threatened to curb power to the UK's Channel Islands amid a dispute over fishing waters.

More than once this winter, the Irish grid operator has shut interconnectors that send wind power to mainland Britain. Ireland has said its shortages are so severe that it could be at risk of blackouts.

Who's vulnerable?

The bulk of Outside supplies usually from Russia, Norway & Algeria account for about 80% of the gas the EU consumes.

The larger the economy, the more vulnerable. For example, Germany imports 90% of its energy requirements. And according to Fabrizio Farina, analyst at consultant Verisk Maplecroft, countries such as UK, Belgium, Spain and Portugal are facing the added problem of low-gas storage capacity.

Possible chokepoints can even aggravate the current situation due to the continent's numerous pipelines and many of them cross several borders. Some of the biggest are Yamal, which goes from Russia through Belarus and Poland before reaching Germany, and TAG, which takes Russian gas to Austria and Italy.

The increasingly inter-connected electricity network of Europe, purpose of which is to allow for the pooling of resources and to build an integrated energy market might ironically leave some countries vulnerable to shut-offs.

Oil inventory at Cushing crude hub nears critically low levels
By DEVIKA KRISHNA KUMAR on 10/22/2021

In a stunning reversal from 2020 when the pandemic prompted a glut of oil so huge that traders resorted to storing it in tankers at sea, stockpiles at the biggest U.S. crude depot are quickly approaching critically low levels. The last time that happened, crude cost more than \$100 a barrel.

At 20 million barrels minimum level requirement to maintain normal operations, stockpiles in Cushing, Oklahoma declined more than 4 million barrels over the past two weeks to 31 million and are expected to keep dropping rapidly due to the world's insatiable demand for U.S. light sweet crude.

The depletion is believed to be caused by a rapid demand recovery and further exacerbated by an energy crisis that has sent European and Asian buyers on the hunt for cheaper barrels. It is expected that over the coming weeks, stockpiles are more likely to fall further to the operational low, traders at some of the biggest oil merchants in the world said, prompting the market to turn even more bullish.

Bob Yawger, Director of future's division at Mizuho Securities, USA was quoted as saying: "Crude oil could justifiably trade to the next level higher on the storage drought at Cushing alone," "Forget about fuel switching, whether OPEC+ adds additional barrels, or dollar weakness: if Cushing continues to slide, it could get ugly quickly." He further said.

Demand for Cushing oil surged because it was the cheapest in the world and stockpiles declined very quickly, according to a senior trader at one of the biggest U.S. crude exporters. Demand for U.S. barrels is higher than ever; the person added, noting that South Korea will have bought the most U.S. crude in their history in November.

With the world economy just recovering from the pandemic driven slump, surging oil prices are already driving costs up for road fuel, freight activity and air travel thereby stoking up inflation. The rapid depletion of Cushing signals just how tight global oil supplies are and threatens to drive prices even higher from their current levels.

The global energy crisis has made the light, sweet, crude from Cushing more attractive on the global market because it has less sulfur than some other types of oil that must be processed through units at refineries called hydrocrackers. Hydrocrackers rely on hydrogen usually generated from natural gas — the cost of which has surged to record highs in parts of Europe and Asia recently.

SOURCE, REFERENCE : BLOOMBERG WORLD OIL

A FEW GOODMEN (DNR Offshore's tribute to Nation's achievers) - EMMANUEL "Manny" FANTIN PIÑOL

born on December 16, 1953, in Bialong, M'lang, in the then-undivided province of Cotabato. He is the second eldest of 11 children born into an immigrant Hiligaynon family from Dingle and Pototan in Iloilo.

Growing up in the family's rice farm in M'lang where he completed his primary, intermediate, and secondary education as the class valedictorian, Manny developed a keen interest in agriculture, a foresight on which his intelligence will one day benefit the country's agriculture industry.

EDUCATION:

Manny is a bachelor's degree holder in Development Communication (2006) and a master's degree in Rural and Economic Development (2008) both from the University of Southern Mindanao. And more recently, in 2018 he was able to acquire his doctoral degree in Rural Development from the same institution.

MEDIA:

In 1976, Manny started his media career as a disc jockey for DXCM, University of Mindanao Radio station. At the same time as a radio journalist and news writer for DXMS in Cotabato City.

MEDIA & GOVERNMENT SERVICE:

Manny started his government service in 1978 and worked as a Public Relations Officer for the National Grains Authority. The very same year he became the editor for the Philippine News Agency where he stayed for four (4) years. His career in (media) Public Affairs includes serving as senior copy editor and sports columnist for Tempo, one of the leading tabloid newspaper in the country. He likewise served then Interior Secretary Raffy Alunan as and former President Fidel Ramos as a writer up until he was elected as Mayor of M'lang, thus commencing his political career.

POLITICAL CAREER:

His political career started in 1995 as a substitute candidate for mayor to his father, former Cotabato Provincial Board Member Bernardo Piñol Sr., in their hometown of M'lang, Cotabato. In 1998, he was elected as Governor of the Province of Cotabato, where his constituents accorded him three consecutive terms proving his dedicated service to the province of Cotabato for during his terms he supported several agriculture programs such as the Malitubog-Maradugao irrigation as well as bottom-up planning for the province's rubber, palm oil, banana, and coconut industry.

The constitution prohibits elected local government officials for serving more than three (3) consecutive terms and in 2007, Manny ran as Vice Governor and won together with his former Vice Governor Jesus Sacdalan who in turn was elected as the new Governor. For and during his term of office, Manny Piñol was credited of reducing the province's poverty incidence from 41.6% in 2000 to 25.6% in 2009. He was likewise the voice of those opposing the the implementation of the Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) between the Philippine Government then under President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Emmanuel "Manny" Fantin Piñol, Filipino, was a journalist, writer, agriculturist and politician. He was the former Secretary of Agriculture under the incumbent government and eventually appointed as the Chairman of the Mindanao Development Authority replacing the equally great leader, the late Abdul Khayr Alonto. Next year, Manny Piñol will be embarking on the most challenging journey of his life, a bid for a senate seat wherein he believe that he can help legislate laws that will make his vision for the country a reality. WISHING YOU GOOD LUCK Chairman MANNY PIÑOL.



HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

MANAGEMENT & COVID19

By: MICHELLE G. VALENCIANO
Admin/HR 2021

The economy was in a shambles because of the onslaught of this pandemic called COVID19 for almost two (2) years of the many versions of lockdowns. Employers and workers alike more particularly those who belong to the SME category will be brutally affected. While asserting that fully vaccinated people will not experience severe infection that may require hospitalization and will not likely cause death, experts agree that fully vaccinated person is still capable of transmitting the Covid-19 virus. All these, however, should not argue against vaccinated workers returning to work.

Management prerogative

Employers prerogative to hire workers who should meet the company's criteria or entry qualifications, standard rules and conditions of employment that will ensure that the employees will be able to remain on their jobs is protected by law in labor relations. Moreover, not only in the hiring process, some LGU's required employers to have its front-liners or workforce to undergo annual medical examinations to determine whether they have morbidities that will affect their ability to work productively and to assure that they will not be able to transmit communicable disease like tuberculosis, SARS or Covid-19 to other employees.

Health and Safety Code of the Philippines obliged employers to strictly enforce health and safety standards. Other industries where workers are exposed to various chemicals needed in manufacturing are required by government health and safety regulations to don protective equipment, like masks, safety shoes, harness and helmets.

We are all aware that Covid-19 is a highly communicable and deadly disease as experts worldwide constantly reminds us. Here in our country, the IATF of the Department of Health has a daily update on those infected, death tolls etc... Under this gravely condition, employers must exercise their management prerogative in order to ensure that the employees they hire or retain is not infected or a carrier of Covid-19 virus, not only for the employee's sake but likewise in order to prevent co-employees from being infected.

No vaccination, no work' a valid exercise of management prerogative

Time and again, employers have the obligation to protect their workers against health and safety hazards. Business establishments are inspected on a regular basis more particularly during the annual renewal of license to operate. In our instance, not only the LGU's but the POEA and DOLE as well, we are regularly checked for our compliance with health and safety measures. For those who failed in enforcing the said standards will likely receive a compliance orders, which if not complied within a specific period will lead to big amount of fines and worst even closure of the business depending on the gravity of the offense.

While "No Vaccination-No Work" policy is valid and enforceable, its application should not be used, for instance to discriminate against employees for their ethnicity, gender, political beliefs or affiliation. More recently, the DOLE clarified that a company can implement said policy but cannot terminate the non-compliant employee. He/she can stay at home until such time that a decision to be fully vaccinated is reached. We have yet to verify but common sense dictates that it would be in a no work-no pay policy as well.

WITH vaccines now readily available, all workers can get vaccinated and return to work to get the economy fully operating. Employers can significantly help in these efforts, more particularly the big, medium and small business entrepreneurs.

With employers adopting a "no vaccination, no work" policy, the problem of vaccine hesitancy and weak demand observed by the IATF and DOH will be alleviated. The workers will be able to return to work. With factories and other businesses in full operation, the economy will have a robust restart.

Reference: The Manila Times



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CONGRATS

Congratulations to Kyle Galloway (GIS Coastal Engineering Project Manager) and his wife Catherine who welcomed their new baby boy, Patrick Joseph, on October 20th, weighing 8 lbs 3 oz and 20.5 inches long. Baby, Mom, and Dad are all doing well. Congrats to you and your family on your newest addition!



E&I SOLAR PROJECT Recognition



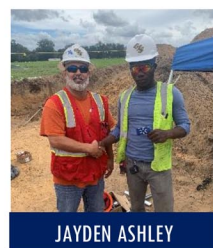
The GIS E&I Division has been doing an excellent job working on the DPECOM Solar Project in Dade City, Florida. It has been noted by many that the work they are putting in and their attention to safety has been outstanding. They have responded great to leadership and have

had no safety issues while on the job. Two new GIS employees, **Christopher Watkins** and **Jayden Ashley**, were given a token of appreciation from the Safety Department for their safe work and setting a good standard for all other new employees. While on the job, Christopher stopped the LIFE Representative and notified him of all safety



CHRISTOPHER WATKINS

what task they were performing and asked to please sign the JSEA. Jayden has been working very safely and is a voice of safety as each job is set up; his supervisor has also recognized him for his hard work. Thank you to all team members involved on this job for your hard work and taking to heart the safety culture at GIS!



JAYDEN ASHLEY

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

This week we would like to recognize **Romy Arante** (Scaffold Builder) for his dedication and service on the core crew at BP Mad Dog for over 16 years. This past week, BP Leadership and the crew celebrated and recognized him for all of the contributions he has provided to Mad Dog over the years. Romy will continue to support GIS and help to serve BP and other clients in the Gulf of Mexico. Congratulations and thank you, Romy!



"From all that I have witnessed and observed working with him these last few years, I personally want to extend my gratitude and recognize Romy for all that he has done and for always giving his 110%."

—JESSE GARCIA | GIS OFFSHORE SUPERINTENDENT



BLANCHARD INDUSTRIAL

ENGINEERING LLC

PERSONNEL NEEDS:

CDL TRUCK DRIVERS
HEAVY EQUIPMENT OP
MECHANICS
[Larose]

RIGGERS
[Galliano]

STRUCTURAL WELDER
STRUCTURAL FITTERS
[Franklinton]

ENVIRONMENTAL TECHS
[Fouchon & Offshore]

BLASTER PAINTER & HELPERS
INSULATORS
ROPE ACCESS B/P
[Baton Rouge]

WELDERS
FITTERS
CRANE OPERATORS
SCAFFOLD BUILDERS
RIGGERS
ROPE ACCESS TECHS
[Offshore Construction]

SR. PROJECT ENGINEER
[Industrial Engineering]

FOREMEN
ELECTRICIANS
LABORERS/HELPERS
EQUIPMENT OPERATORS
[E&I - Florida]

PRODUCTION OPERATOR
[Permian]

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER
MATERIAL COORDINATOR
QA/QC CWI
[Project Management]

CRANE OPERATOR
WAREHOUSEMEN
[Production - Offshore]

PROJECT AWARD: Equinor



GIS was recently awarded the new project of **Titan TTR Cylinder Replacement** for new client, Equinor. The scope of work for this project consists of GIS providing all labor, tools and equipment required for the removal and replacement of 4 of 12 active cylinders with 4 refurbished cylinders. This is the 2nd project awarded for this new client. This project involves support from multiple divisions, including Offshore Construction and Project Services. We would specifically like to recognize all those involved in this project award including: **Sean Billiot** for walking down the first few scopes for the client, the fabrication group for their exceptional fabrication work, **Big E and team** for their excellent work on the first few jobs GIS did for Equinor, and **Todd Gauthreaux** for his help in building this quote. GIS is grateful for this opportunity to continue to provide exceptional service to grow this new partnership. Congratulations to all on this big win!

"Here at GIS we consider ourselves very fortunate and grateful for opportunities with new clients. Given the rich history of both Equinor as well as GIS, we look forward to a long-lasting relationship supporting their operations in the GoM. We are super proud of multiple divisions within the GIS family that were ultimately responsible for putting together a comprehensive package to help support this project.

Great job, TEAM!"
—JOSH SON | VP OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



ENGAGING OUR WORKFORCE

EMPLOYEE PERCEPTION SURVEY 2022

At the end of each year, GIS's Executive Leadership Team creates initiatives and focus areas on improving our organization and becoming the "Employer of Choice" within our industry. We rely heavily on our employee's feedback, input, and ideas to develop a forward action plan that is tracked and monitored by leadership every month.

With the open and honest feedback received from the anonymous Employee Perception Survey over the past few years, our team formed initiatives such as Culture of Care, DEI (Diversity Equity Inclusion) Program, and The Helping Hands Foundation. The survey also led the organization to create a Career Path Development Program. These are just a few examples of how we incorporated your valuable feedback from the survey to make significant improvements to our organization.

By openly answering these questions, you will assist our team in developing a better understanding of potential focus areas and improvements needed for years to come.

As always, your feedback is valued and appreciated!



ANONYMOUS



QUICK



EASY



CDC EXTENDS CONDITIONAL SAILING ORDER

Many had wondered if the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would extend its Conditional Sailing Order (CSO) beyond November 1, 2021. Well, now, the CDC has decided to temporarily extend the order until January 15, 2022, a voluntary program will then follow in coordination with the cruise industry.

There are some ways that the order could come to an end earlier than January 15, 2022. The order could be rescinded by the CDC Director, which is very unlikely. Another way the order could end earlier is if the Secretary of Health and Human Services expires the public health emergency.

There are some changes to the extended order but the majority of the details will remain the same until the middle of January when the cruise lines can then continue to keep guests and crew members safe without the Conditional Sailing Order. The CDC did say that one of the main reasons for extending the order was due to the continued spread of the Delta variant.

SOURCE: CRUISEHIVE October News
Photo Credit: Katherine Welles / Shutterstock.com

Carnival Radiance Completes Transformation

It has been a long wait to see the newly transformed Carnival cruise ship *Carnival Radiance* as she finally arrived on the morning of October 28 at the cruise capital of the world, PortMiami. The vessel has just completed a transatlantic crossing and some time off the coast in Freeport, Bahamas, for crew transfers between nearby Carnival vessels.

While the ship is docked in Miami, it will take on stores and possibly even more crew member transfers. *Carnival Radiance* won't stay there long, as the seven-week journey, which first started from Cadiz Spain on October 18, will continue.

Carnival Radiance will transit the Panama Canal soon and eventually arrive at the Long Beach Cruise Terminal in California. The ship will begin operating year-round three- and four-day Mexican Riviera cruises on December 13, 2021.

The three-day itinerary will include a call to Ensenada in Mexico, and the four-day option will also visit Ensenada along with Catalina Island. The vessel joins *Carnival Panorama* and *Carnival Miracle*, and both have already restarted operations from the port.

Carnival Radiance was previously named *Carnival Victory* as the ship name was changed due to a massive \$200 million makeover at the Navantia shipyard in Cadiz, Spain.

In addition to all the FUN 2.0 enhancements, *Carnival Radiance* is also the second in the fleet to have the Big Chicken dining venue, created by Carnival's Chief Fun Officer Shaquille O'Neal. There's also the new Cucina del Capitano, the multi-purpose Liquid Lounge, and one of the most expensive Cloud 9 Spas at sea.

SOURCE: CRUISEHIVE October News
Photo Credit: PTZtv (portmiamiwebcam.com)

**Through the kindness of Ronnie Requina, Welfare Officer

SAILING AGAIN

After a year and a half, DNR Offshore's in-house caterer, (yes you've read it right, we have our own caterer) RAZEL QUINIAL, a product of our cadetship program during the company's early years just signed-in again with Norwegian Cruise Lines this time with Norwegian Pearl. The cruise ship will cover Miami, Florida, Mexico, Aruba, Marseille, Port Canaveral and Napoli.

They were forced to sign-off barely a month with Norwegian Epic due to the onslaught of the Pandemic in April of 2020.

Back in Manila after the required quarantine, Razel was asked by our former CEO, Engr. Nilfil Peralta to handle the meal requirement of the employees in order to avoid unnecessary trip to restaurants which were likewise required to follow strict protocol on their services. Of course Razel cannot say no to DNR Offshore's request who originally planned to get into food delivery business while awaiting the next sign-in with Norwegian Cruise Lines. He continued serving the needs of our officers and staff up until August when most of us caught the annual flu epidemic forcing HR to place the company under skeletal operations and Senior Managers to WFH.

Now Razel is back to his rightful profession and we wish him Great Luck on his journeys.

The EDITORIAL TEAM



CAPTAIN KATE MCCUE TO TAKE HELM OF CELEBRITY BEYOND

Celebrity Beyond, Celebrity Cruises newest ship will be Captained by the first American cruise ship captain in the person of Captain Kate McCue, according to Cruises President and CEO Lisa Lutoff-Perlo.

The ship was designed by British designer Kelly Hoppen, American designer Kelly Hoppen, American designer Nate Berkus, Michelin-starred chef and restaurateur Daniel Boulud, and featuring wellness experiences and products from Goop CEO and founder Gwyneth Paltrow, the brand's well-being advisor.

McCue has been a "pioneer and trailblazer," breaking the gender barrier in 2015 when Lutoff-Perlo named her to be the first – and still only – American female to captain a major cruise ship, the Celebrity Summit. She moved to the Celebrity Equinox before being appointed to helm the Celebrity Edge in September 2019.

On March 8, 2020, McCue further cemented her place in the history books when she captained the sailing on the Celebrity Edge that comprised a cruise ship's first-ever all-female bridge and officer team. She also led the Celebrity fleet back into operation when, on June 26, 2021, the Celebrity Edge became the first cruise ship to sail with guests from a U.S. port in more than a year due to the global coronavirus pandemic.

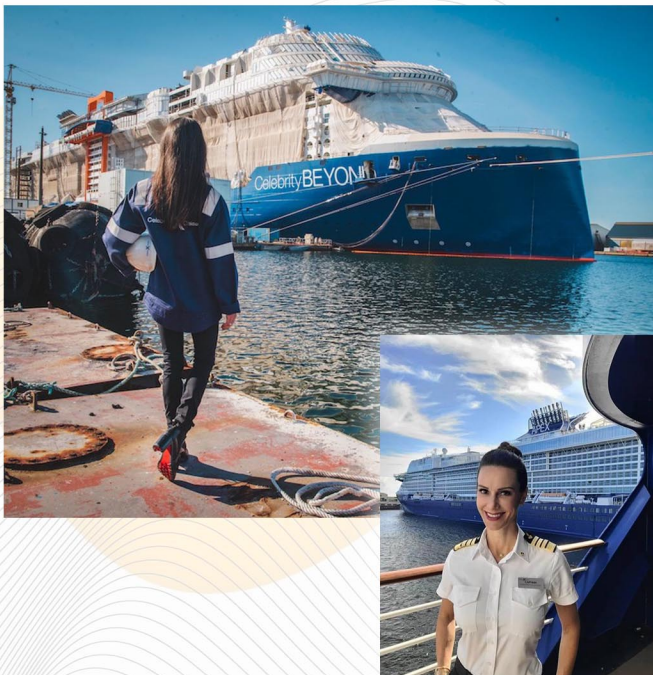
Since becoming a captain, McCue has inspired many people "from all walks of life to follow their dreams," Celebrity wrote in a press release. McCue has also become a social media celebrity, amassing nearly 3.5 million followers across TikTok, Instagram and YouTube by humanizing the profile of captain and sharing behind-the-scenes looks at seafaring life.

To be the 'take out' captain for a new vessel is an honor for any captain and it is an absolute dream come true for me. I always say that if you see it, you can be it and I hope that Celebrity Beyond sails as an inspiration for all to see past convention in pursuit of any goal in life," said McCue. "I'm forever grateful to Lisa for entrusting this labor of love to me to captain. The thoughtfulness and imagination she put into this ship are only matched by her forward-thinking to move the industry beyond what it is now and see what it should be."

The Celebrity Beyond will not only hold the title of the largest ship in the fleet, but the distinction as the brand's "most luxurious vessel," Celebrity said. The ship's maiden voyage will depart on April 27, 2022, from Southampton, England, for a 10-night Western Europe cruise visiting Bordeaux, France; Lisbon, Portugal; and Seville, Malaga, Palma de Mallorca and Barcelona, Spain.

She will then offer a variety of Mediterranean journeys including nine-night Italian Riviera and France itineraries and 10-night Greek Isles itineraries through early October when she then heads to the Caribbean.

SOURCE: CRUISE INDUSTRY NEWS, October 2021



DNR
NEWSLETTER



Is published monthly by the
Corporate Communication

Edmundo Maxilom Jr.
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