

WINNER

NICO MIDDLE EAST

WORKBOATS AWARD

SEA TRADE MIDDLE EAST & INDIAN SUBCONTINENT 2008

A time for celebration again as NICO Middle East wins the Workboats Award. This is the 2nd award in a row after bagging the 'Maritime and Offshore services Award' at Seatrade in 2007. "The Award belongs to all the sea and shore staff of NICO Middle East & Doha Marine Services. They have clearly demonstrated dedication and consistency in the quality of their performance." says, Ron Clark, the General Manager of NICO Middle East. Fazel A Fazelbhoy, the Topaz CEO was full of praise for the NICO Middle East team. "I would like to congratulate Ron and his team. This is a well deserved recognition for the effort they have put in." Ron spoke to the Corporate Communication Team. Let's find out what he has to say on this achievement.



Ron Clark, GM-NICO Middle East receives the Workboats Award from Dr. Gholamhossain Golparvar, Commercial Director of Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines

ON RECORD with RONALD CLARK, General Manager of NICO MIDDLE EAST

NICO MIDDLE EAST wins yet another award, how does it feel to be acknowledged by your peers?

It is good to be acknowledged and recognized in the industry. **The credit for this award goes to all the shore and sea staff** who have worked very hard to make this happen.

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Having achieved success 2 years in a row at Seatrade, what is the next target?

Our target is to always deliver services that meet or exceed the requirements of our customers. We work to constantly improve our capabilities, and our success comes from a determination to be the best we can. Awards that recognize our efforts are of course extremely satisfying. Our next target is to successfully qualify for and hopefully win the Dubai Quality Awards in 2010.

A lot of hard work goes into the success of a business. Can you throw some light on how NICO MIDDLE EAST has achieved this?

This has been possible mainly because of three reasons- the **commitment of our staff**, the **continued support of customers** to deliver a product and the **faith our shareholders**.

What is the biggest strength of NICO Middle East today?

The **biggest strengths of NICO Middle East** are its **people** and their abilities, the **flexible modern fleet of vessels** and the **confidence that our shareholders** have in us.

There are challenges in every industry, what are the challenges faced by you/NICO Middle East and how do you go about facing them?

One of the biggest challenges in the world today is the acute shortage of qualified and competent crew in the industry. In order to attract and retain our crews we have done

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several things. We have tried to improve the quality of life of the crew members. For e.g. we benchmark our packages to keep them in line with the industry standards and have reduced tours of duty for the crew. We are also introducing satellite televisions which are already installed in 7 of our vessels and which will gradually be on all our vessels. We have also taken measures to monitor the quality of our staff.

Is there any message that you would like to convey to your colleagues at NICO MIDDLE EAST?

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK - This award is recognition of all the hard work and commitment put in by the employees of NICO Middle East and Doha Marine Services.

The award belongs equally to NICO MIDDLE EAST and Doha Marine Services.

We would like to acknowledge the support that we have received from other Group Companies - NICO International, ADYARD, and BUE. The fact that we all come under the TOPAZ Group remains as our biggest strength.

The commitment of our staff to deliver excellence is highly commendable and I am very proud of each of them.