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The CHIRP Charitable Trust has been named '**The Best Safety Service of the Year**' at the 2017 Safety at Sea Awards, held during London International Shipping Week. **CHIRP provides a free and confidential reporting programme for near miss and hazardous occurrences, sharing safety lessons learnt with 200,000 seafarers every year.**

The Safety at Sea Awards are amongst the most prestigious maritime industry awards. CHIRP was announced as the winner out of six shortlisted entrants in the Best Safety Service of the Year category, recognising its online confidential reporting programme as an original development that has the potential to improve safety both on board and ashore.

Captain John Rose (Director Maritime) comments, "The Safety at Sea Award recognises the amazing hard work and dedication of the three part time maritime staff at CHIRP. The Trustees and Members of the Maritime Advisory Board, with their collective 750 years of maritime experience, and our worldwide network of Ambassadors, all volunteers, provide very able support and expertise. It is also testament to the support we receive from our sponsors for whose generosity we are most grateful".

Our new web based system, accessed via www.chirpmaritime.org, offers a simplified and confidential report form accessible via mobile, tablet or computer. Documents, photos, videos or audio can be added to the submission, and analytical tools are available. Already there has been a 75% reduction in time taken to process reports.

John Rose adds: "The Charitable Trust recognises dedicated seafarers who report hazardous occurrences at sea and in port. Only two members of staff ever know the identity of each reporter and the confidential exchange of information has never been compromised. Also we recognise the recent contribution made by those ship managers who have been willing to share their own reports, statistics and safety lessons learned".

Winning the award is a source of immense pride and satisfaction for all those involved in the work of the CHIRP Charitable Trust whose aim is to help ensure that seafarers return home to their family and loved ones after each and every trip.

CHIRP would like to thank the panel of judges and the organisers, Safety at Sea, and congratulate the other winners on the night.

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