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Once more, SAPMER helps a vessel in distress

Reunion Island, 16 October 2015

October 15th, in the afternoon, Arnaud Barzic, Captain of the Dolomieu vessel, one of SAPMER's -40°C tuna purse seiners, provided assistance to a ship in distress with 29 sailors on board. The crew of Indonesian and Taiwanese nationality are now all safe. At the request of the Seychelles Authorities, Dolomieu is now on its way to Mahé, to disembark the survivors.

Following a distress call, received on October 15th by the Seychelles Authorities, all the vessels in the area were asked to give their positions, in order for the closest one, to go to the last known coordinates of the ship in distress, and render assistance. Close to the area, Dolomieu went to assist.

At 3:10pm, they arrived next to the missing ship, Captain Barzic could observe that the entire bridge had burnt, which explained the Seychelles Authorities' inability to get in touch with the vessel after receiving the distress call. All sailors were at the bow of the ship. The Dolomieu skiff was sent to rescue them and bring them back on board, where they received first aid, food and clothes.

All 29 crew members of Indonesians and Taiwanese nationality are safe and sound.

Dolomieu is now on its way to the Seychelles, where the sailors will be disembarked and will meet with the Local Authorities (MRCC Seychelles Coast Guard), so that the exact circumstances of their accident could be clarified.

Important fact: Last month, 02 September, Franche Terre vessel, another one of SAPMER's -40°C tuna purse seiners, rescued 3 sailors, who had been adrift on board a life raft for 25 days before being rescued all safe and sound and brought back to the Seychelles.



The burnt ship in distress, with 29 sailors,
all safe and sound



DOLOMIEU, SAPMER's -40°C tuna
purse seiner



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Contacts

SAPMER

Adrien de Chomereau – CEO – T: + (230) 40 59 700 – adechomereau@sapmer.com

Communication Department – T: + (262) 262 42 55 01 – communication@sapmer.com

About SAPMER – www.sapmer.com

SAPMER is the historical deep-sea fishing operator in the waters of the French Southern and Antarctic Territories (TAAF) based on the island of Reunion. Founded in 1947, SAPMER now operates a wholly-owned fleet of four freezer-longliners for Patagonian Toothfish and a Freezer pot Lobster vessel for Rock Lobster and five tuna purse seiners (on board -40°C deep freeze) for its tuna fishing activity (Yellowfin and Skipjack) in the Indian Ocean.

Positioned on strong valued 'niche' activities, SAPMER is dividing its activities into two categories:

- A fishing activity which includes Toothfish and Rock Lobster sales fished in the Southern Seas (Economic Zones of the French Southern and Antarctic Territories - TAAF) and whole tuna sales (Yellowfin and Skipjack) fished in the Indian Ocean.
- A value-enhancing and processing activity (sashimi loins, steaks,...) based on a well managed tuna fishery.

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