

Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Manager 60 Broad Street – 37th Floor New York, New York 10004 U.S.A.

212-847-4500

212-847-4599

Website: www.american-club.com

info@american-club.net



Tel*

Fax:

F-mail·

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TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Dear Member:

CLAIMS HANDLING CAPABILITIES IN ASIA

Your Managers are pleased to advise that they have retained the services of Francesca Giacomelli to assist Members with claims-related matters in the Asian time zone.

Francesca previously worked for Shipowners Claims Bureau (UK) Ltd (SCBUK) where she handled both P&I and Defense Claims on behalf of European and Asian Members. She is qualified as a lawyer in both Italy and the United Kingdom, and has previous experience with one of the leading maritime law firms in London.

The Club has been developing its membership within Asia as part of its plan for further regional diversification. It is committed to develop this further over the months and years to come. With this in mind, it has become important for the Club to be able to deliver claims handling services within the Asian time zone. While it has longer-term plans for a full service claims handling office within the region, shorter-term assistance to Members in this important area was considered a valuable interim expedient in light of her relocation as described below.

On leaving SCBUK, Francesca moved to China during the summer and has now established her own marine claims consultancy in Beijing. The Club has contracted with Francesca in her capacity as an independent consultant to provide claims handling services to Members who operate within this region.

With immediate effect, Francesca is available to receive initial advice of potential claims, assist with the instruction of Club correspondents, surveyors or lawyers and generally to provide advice and assistance to Members.

Francesca may handle files locally, while others (after initial assistance from Francesca) may be handled by claims handlers in London, Piraeus or New York. As always, Members and brokers are free to contact the office of their choice, but this new relationship with Francesca gives those in the Asian region a point of contact in their own time zone.

Her contact details are as follows:

Francesca Giacomelli
Marine Claims Consultant
Tel + 86 10 6538 2421
Fax + 86 10 6538 2437
Mobile + 86 13910 516 757
E-mail FrancescaGiacomelli@gmail.com

Members should note that files which were previously handled by Francesca while at SCBUK may now have been assigned to a new claims handler in that office. Any queries in respect of this should be addressed in the first instance to Brian Davies at SCBUK – davies@scb-uk.com

Yours faithfully,

Joseph E.M. Hughes, Chairman & CEO Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Managers for

THE AMERICAN CLUB