



## FORTNIGHTLY MERCIFULLY BRIEF, PITHY AND WHOLLY IDIOSYNCRATIC NEWSLETTER.



### ***Mercifully Brief***

The COSTA CONCORDIA seems to have got the press attention turned for the moment away from piracy. I cannot decide, however, whether or not the master should be laughed at for his obvious buffoonish tendencies or seethed at for his unseamanlike acts or cried over for the terminal stupidity his parents gave him or understood for catching on to the enormity of what was happening and being paralyzed by fear and indecision. The dog ate his homework too. We cannot all be stoic command automatons, sir [or ma'am as the case may be]. At any rate, the

salvage vultures have swooped down on the carcass. The press circus ashore grows and the pitiful man will learn what it is like to be scourged on the way to Calvary and to drink hyssop. Hanging masters is alive and well whether or not it in a police-state regime, such as the US, where that is a foregone conclusion, or elsewhere, where there is a need for a handy foreign scapegoat, or in Italy, where charges seem legitimate on the face. For those of you into navigation I attach a [chart plot](#) of the last minutes before the ill-fated wreck of the doomed CONCORDIA – and it was not even a dark and stormy night off the Scottish coast.

### ***Pithy***

Veni, vidi, vici. Now if the World's greatest banana republic could be as certain, terse and good as Caesar, it might have a future. Somehow, looking at Capitol Hill, I see no Caesar on the horizon and can see no triumph in the works. Latin has no past perfect you might recall from

### In This Issue

- DisConcordia
- Et tu, Obama?
- TWIC business
- Urgings

How may  
Cartner & Co.  
help you?

Bring your maritime law, engineering, operations, management or economics problem to us. It is likely we have done something similar to it and will be happy to talk with you about your problem.

1+202 429 2500

[jacc@cflaw.net](mailto:jacc@cflaw.net)

the eighth grade. Somehow, however, "Obama, his legions having been formed, proceeded to lay waste to the Republicans" which is almost Shakespearean in its comedy and correct in its grammar. Well, almost.

---

### ***Wholly idiosyncratic***

I seem to have stepped on the toes of Lockheed Martin, those sly defense contractors who sold to TSA and then brought us the TWIC. Those are the nicer epithets of a company which legally fleeced a group of dunces at TSA out of a billion or so dollars, performed minimally and threatened to hold up the TWIC idiocy if the Congress did not give them more. In Washington it is a Gecko in the till and not a gecko prancing on stage with his green suit. Congressman Micah has said that the TWIC is as useful as a library card. The TSA now reports that 26,000 of these pieces of paper with photos and thumbprints are wrong. The death throes of this ill-conceived and poorly executed "security measure" puts all ships in the nervous locker. I await Airport Johnny Pistole's introduction of genital groping on the waterfront.

---

### ***Urgings***

DO NOT FORGET TO TIE A STRING AROUND YOUR FINGER AND SIGN UP FOR FOB [online](#). I mean by that if I am there you should be there too. Drop a line and let me know when you sign up. I will then tell Sam and Humphrey what a good job we are doing. It is free of charge right now to people and I think there is a small fee for companies. See you there. You will not be disappointed.

Smooth sailing, fair winds and a following sea.

John A. C. Cartner  
 Managing Member, the Cartner Companies  
 and Cartner & Co., LLC, maritime consultants

---

Cartner & Co., LLC consults in maritime and related law, naval architecture and marine engineering and maritime economics and trade.

*From the company archives: 1989. A week after the grounding we were called out by the US Navy to take over all the naval contract operations for the EXXON VALDEZ as related to the oil pollution. Off we went with ten thousand tons of gear, bags and baggage. It was great fun with great mosquitoes, great days, good flying in DeHavilland single Beaver' s and two hours of darkness to refresh oneself.*

*No legal, engineering, taxation or consultative advice is provided herein and none should be construed. The views expressed herein are solely the author's.*

© all rights reserved. May be copied with attribution.

---

Cartner & Co., LLC 2010  
 The Cartner Companies // [jacc@cflaw.net](mailto:jacc@cflaw.net)  
[Intershipmaster.com](http://Intershipmaster.com)

