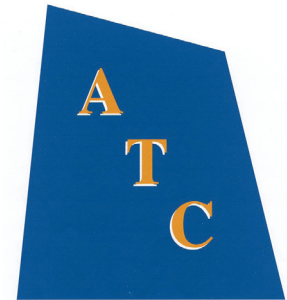


Alaska Tanker Company

Alaska Tanker Company (ATC) was formed in 1999 to transport BP's Alaskan crude oil from Alaska to the western United States in a safe, cost-effective, and environmentally sound manner. Since its founding, ATC's commitment to excellence in safety and environmental performance became its trademark and the foundation of its success. In 2004, ATC received the Benkert "Osprey" Gold Award from the U.S. Coast Guard in recognition of outstanding achievement in marine environmental protection. Similarly, in 2006, the Alaska State Legislature recognized ATC's efforts to achieve the highest levels of safety and environmental performance, noting that its record is unsurpassed in the industry. Through April 2008, ATC ships have safely and efficiently carried over 1,103 million barrels of crude oil, and its workforce has completed over 12 million man-hours, without anyone sustaining an injury that resulted in a loss of work. No tanker company in the world has ever achieved this safety record.

Situation

At its inception, ATC knew that its commitment to excellence in environmental protection and safety required that they have the best possible meteorological information at their fingertips. "The ability to monitor weather on a daily basis is a huge part of safety", explains John Miller, ATC's Electronics Superintendent. That's why Miller began seeking out an onboard routing and voyage optimization solution shortly after ATC was founded.



"For over 10 years BVS has helped us maintain our exceptional safety record and ensure there are no risks to people, the ship or the environment."

**– John Miller, Engineer,
Alaska Tanker Company**



Solution

Miller chose to install AWT's Bon Voyage System (BVS) on two of its vessels on a trial basis. "For the trial, I selected vessels staffed by deck officers who were particularly good at evaluating software, and their feedback about BVS was very positive," Miller states. Although ATC explored several different products, Miller felt that BVS offered the best and easiest to use onboard software solution. He and his colleagues were particularly impressed with the seamless integration of BVS' regular updates with its email program and other software products already used on the ships. "The process was invisible to the onboard user. The weather updates just appear on the computers on each vessel," Miller explains. ATC installed AWT's BVS on their entire fleet.

Results

Although shipping routes between Alaska and the western United States are limited, the twice-daily weather updates that BVS provides allow the tankers to be better prepared for what lies ahead. "When BVS alerts us that we're going to encounter severe weather conditions," Miller explains, "the entire crew is made aware and can take precautions." These include limiting the work they do on deck and securing equipment and other loose objects that could be damaged or cause damage in stormy weather. As a result, information provided by AWT regularly helps ensure that ATC maintains its impressive safety record. In so doing, AWT has earned ATC's respect and loyalty. "We've had no problems or hiccups whatsoever with AWT in the ten years that we've been using the product. That's a pretty phenomenal record as well," Miller states.

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