



Alaska Tanker Company, LLC  
15400 NW Greenbrier Parkway  
Parkside Building, Suite A400  
Beaverton, Oregon 97006  
Tel: 503-207-0046 Fax: 503-207-0061

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For Immediate Release

### **Alaska Tanker Company achieves "SQE Certification" including ISO 14001 Certification**

Alaska Tanker Company, LLC (ATC) based in Beaverton (Portland), Oregon has achieved "Safety, Quality and Environmental (SQE) Certification" including Accredited International Standards Organization (ISO) 14001 Certification to the Environmental Management System Standard on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2001. This accomplishment makes ATC the first U.S. flag seagoing Shipping Company to attain SQE and ISO 14001 Certification from the American Bureau of Shipping (ABS). This feat was achieved within 2 ½ years of ATC's inception.

The attainment of Certification to the International Safety Management (ISM) Code as well as ISO 9001 (Quality Management System Standard) and ISO 14001 demonstrates the Company's commitment to be a World-Class tanker operator. Additionally, ATC has also submitted for compliance with Washington State's Exceptional Compliance Program (known as ECOPRO).

ATC's President Anil Mathur remarked upon receiving the SQE Certificate from ABS Americas President, Robert E. Kramek: "This Certificate symbolizes the quality of our work, and our continued focus on the most important safety and environmental protection aspect of our jobs. This <Certification> allowed us to integrate the practices and procedures required of all three Certifications in to one powerful and simpler Management System. The Certificate itself is a token of recognition, and it is the underlying actions that make this possible that are important to me personally."

ABS Corporate Head, Safety and Environmental Systems Certification, Dinesh Thareja, the attending ABS Lead Auditor throughout the entire review period, commented on what impressed ABS the most "ATC's senior management is very interested in the Company's performance with respect to safety, quality and environmental protection. All personnel, including shipboard staff, are encouraged to provide inputs for improving the Company's performance. This has created an atmosphere, which promotes teamwork and a culture of safety and quality within the Company. The Company recognizes the importance of management systems in improving its performance. SQE certification is yet another landmark in the Company's journey towards continual improvement."

A basic premise of the Certification(s) is to navigate the Company towards continual improvement. By reducing our operational impact through managed programs that either find means to eliminate or remove a portion of the risk involved, we have implemented programs that achieved reductions in personnel injury, fuel and energy savings, and stack emissions opacity.

Founded in 1999, Alaska Tanker Company, LLC is a joint operating company of BP Shipping Company, USA, Keystone Alaska, LLC and OSG Ship Management, Inc. It manages a fleet of 10 U. S. Flag tankers which operate mainly in the Alaska to U.S. West Coast trade. For more information contact Captain John Lawrence, HSE Team Leader at (503) 207-0046.