



Holland America Line's *ms Veendam* Rescues Pilot Who Ditched His Aircraft in the Pacific Ocean Off the Coast of Maui, Hawaii

January 26, 2015

SEATTLE, Jan. 26, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- On Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, at 5:21 p.m. local time while en route to Lahaina, Hawaii, Holland America Line's *ms Veendam* answered a request for assistance from the United States Coast Guard to rescue a pilot who had ditched his single-engine Cirrus SR-22 after he experienced a mechanical issue with the fuel system. The pilot was located approximately 225 nautical miles off the coast of Maui, Hawaii.

In partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard, *Veendam* was able to successfully rescue the pilot, who deployed the aircraft's airframe parachute system and safely exited the plane into a life raft. Holland America Line crewmembers brought him aboard *Veendam* and provided him food and accommodations. The pilot, who was in good condition, disembarked today, Jan. 26, at Lahaina.

"Congratulations to the team on *ms Veendam* for coming to the aid of the pilot and for working together with the Coast Guard to conduct this successful rescue operation," said Orlando Ashford, president of Holland America Line. "January has been an eventful month for our ships with several rescues around the world, and we are honored to be able to assist in any distress situation when needed."

Veendam currently is in the middle of an 18-day Circle Hawaii cruise roundtrip from San Diego, Calif., which departed Jan. 20.

This is the third rescue at sea by a Holland America Line ship in 2015. On Jan. 3, *ms Zuiderdam* rescued eight crewmembers from a sinking vessel in the Caribbean, and Jan. 4 *ms Zaandam* came to the aid of seven stranded crewmembers at the Arctowski Polish research station at King George Island in Antarctica.

For more information about Holland America Line, contact a travel professional or call 1-877-SAIL-HAL (1-877-724-5425) or visit www.hollandamerica.com.

Editor's note: Additional photos are available at <http://www2.cleanpix.com/cleanpix/portal/WAnD-25N-Qm6>.

Link to official United States Coast Guard video:

http://www.dvidshub.net/video/388574/pilot-safe-after-ditching-253-miles-maui#_VMZA7ye2jLU.

Find Holland America Line on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and the [Holland America Blog](#). Access all social media outlets via the [Online Communities](#) quick link on the home page at www.hollandamerica.com.

About Holland America Line [a division of Carnival Corporation and plc (NYSE: CCL and CUK)]

Holland America Line's fleet of 15 ships offers more than 500 cruises to 415 ports in 98 countries, territories or dependencies. One- to 110-day itineraries visit all seven continents and highlights include Antarctica, South America, Australia/New Zealand and Asia voyages; four annual Grand Voyages; and popular sailings to ports in the Caribbean, Alaska, Mexico, Canada/New England, Europe and Panama Canal. The line currently has a new 2,650-guest ship, *ms Koningsdam*, on order for delivery in February 2016 from Fincantieri shipyard, as well as a second Pinnacle Class ship due for delivery in November 2018.

Fleetwide, the company features Signature of Excellence enhancements, a commitment totaling more than \$500 million, that showcase the Culinary Arts Center presented by Food & Wine magazine — a state-of-the-art onboard show kitchen where more than 60 celebrated guest chefs and culinary experts provide cooking demonstrations and classes — Explorations Cafe powered by The New York Times, Digital Workshop powered by Windows, teens-only activity areas and all new stateroom amenities highlighted by flat-panel TVs and plush Euro-top Mariner's Dream Beds.

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