

Greek ship underpaying crew: union

The International Transport Workers' Federation says a Greek cargo ship docked at Port Adelaide has been grossly under-paying its 21 Filipino crew members.

The Hellenic Sky arrived in Port Lincoln last week to pick up a 50,000 tonne wheat shipment bound for Iraq, but was sent to Adelaide for repairs.

Federation members boarded the vessel on Sunday and say they found that crew members were being underpaid.

The Australian coordinator, Matt Purcell, says the Federation will move to make the ship's owners pay the crew the appropriate wage.

"An able seaman on board the vessel is receiving lower than the ILO minimum rate, which is a mere \$US 970 per month, they're receiving less than that, I think about 842 and they're only receiving half of what the required standard is for an ITF approved vessel," he said.

The ship's Australian agent, Monson, says it has not been aware of any wage issues onboard the Hellenic Sky.

A spokesman says payment of the crew is a matter for the ship's owners and the International Transport Workers' Federation to work out.



Mykonos island costly even to Greek rich people

The sting of the global economic downturn was felt during the recent Easter holidays, as famous Greeks seem to have changed their habits this year.

Travels to Greek island of Mykonos, which traditionally attracts famous visitors, noted a serious decline this year. The high prices in the island, unjustified in times of financial meltdown, have discouraged the holidaymakers, Ethnos daily said.

Most hotels were half-empty or did not open at all. The island's shops also recorded sales decline.

A number of Greeks spent the Easter holidays abroad, as travel agencies offered low-cost arrangements.

Greece protecting itself from swine influenza

The Ministries of Healthcare and Agriculture in Greece had an emergent session regarding the swine influenza. Experts noted that for now Greece is not in danger of a pig flu outbreak. Nevertheless, they undertook measures to watch the situation in the country and to make reports every 24 hours.

The created group of swine influenza scientists includes scientists from the Pasteur Institute and the National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases. The group is in constant communication with the World Health Organization, with the European and American Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and with the World Veterinary Center.

"We have to note that the European and respectively the Greek strain of the swine influenza virus H1N1 was isolated in Europe in 1973 and it has no connection to the new strain of the virus, which appeared in Mexico and the USA. It cannot be passed to a human being and the European and Greek swine breeders are out of danger," said an official announcement after the end of the session.

Despite this, the president of the



Emergent Swine Influenza Group Panos Evstatiou appealed to Greeks not to travel to Mexico. The Greek embassy in the country announced that the number of Greek tourists in Mexico is insignificant. The Ministries of Healthcare and Foreign Affairs announced that they will send medicines and medicaments for the staff of the embassy in Mexico, as well as for the Greeks, who live there. Despite the increased airports control, Panos Evstatiou said that a positive fact is that there is not direct flight between Athens and Mexico.

Meanwhile, the Mexican authorities confirmed that the swine influenza victims until now are 103; 400 people have been admitted to hospitals with symptoms of the flu

and another 1600 have doubts that they might have the virus. The US authorities confirmed another 2 cases of swine influenza in Kansas, which makes the total number of deceased to be 11. New Zealand said that a group of young people, who have recently returned from a vacation in Mexico, are showing symptoms of the virus.

The World Health Organization characterizes the US swine influenza boom as "international level threat to public health." The symptoms of the swine influenza are high fever, tiredness, food repulsion, cough and throat ache. For the last time, the H1N1 virus was stalking up in 1918 during the Spanish flu epidemic and then, the virus took 50 million lives.

9 Easy Steps to Create a Greek Or Roman Themed Bedroom

We should write thank-you notes to the ancient Greeks and Romans. The Romans gave us Roman pillars, coliseums, and the Senate. Meanwhile, the Greeks gave us Boolean logic (for computers), democracy, and "The Father of Medicine." By taking some basic steps, you can recreate the aura of ancient Greece or Rome, by creating a Greek or Roman theme bedroom. Here are some steps to help you:

Step 1: Get the right paint

Your first step is to choose a particular shade of beige that you prefer. You will then need to buy particular amounts of three shades of light brown, and glaze. All of these products are available at your friendly neighborhood hardware store:

- lightest shade: enough to paint the whole bedroom
- medium shade that is 1-2 shades darker:
- darkest shade: one quart
- glaze - medium

Step 2: Add the lightest color

After selecting and buying your paints, you are ready to rock and roll! Use the lightest shade of beige to paint the entire room.

Step 3: Add the mid-tone color

Next, it is time to prepare the medium shade of beige. This will later complement any

metal wall sculptures that you add to walls. Blend this beige color with glaze medium, using 50% of the beige and 50% of the glaze. Then use a sponge to dab the second color onto the walls. The second color will add both depth and texture to the first coat. Make sure not to completely cover the first coat. Instead, use asymmetrical patterns to create a layered look.

Step 4: Add the darkest shade and wallpaper columns

Create veins (lines) on the wall that bear a resemblance to the lines that marble contains. Make sure not to use overkill. Two or three veins for each wall would be sufficient. Finally, add fake columns of wallpaper, after completing the painting of the walls.

Step 5: Install or cover the floor

A wood floor is preferable to create your Greek or Roman theme. However, if it is not feasible to install a wood floor, then use an area rug with a natural fiber (i.e. sisal or jute). The area rug will match up well with the floor.

Step 6: Select a bed

You can either use a bed that is naturally a neutral or light color; or paint the bed yourself. This will further help to complement your metal wall sculptures. If the bedroom is for a girl, consider using a canopy bed with light, white drapes.

Step 7: Select the bedding

The bedding should be of a neutral color. Consider using textured fabrics and fine stripes.

Step 8: Accessorize with plaster pillars

Place ivy plants in them, to complement the metal sculptures that you have hung on the walls.

Step 9: Choose the window drapes

Use thin and lightweight window drapes around the windows, and around the room.

By following the aforementioned steps, you can create an ancient Greek or Roman theme bedroom. Creating such a theme will cease being Greek to you!