



SCOTT SENKO

NYK Line's Port Captain in Baltimore

BY MERRILL WITTY
Photograph By Kathy Bergren Smith

www.nykline.com



NYK (Nippon Yusen Kaisha) is one of the world's largest shipping and transportation companies — the NYK group operates more than 800 vessels with a capacity of approximately 60 million Kt (DWT) on a consolidated basis. And its Baltimore terminal is one of its largest in North America.

Not only that, but the Baltimore location had the distinction recently of loading up a record number of vehicles, nearly 3,300, on the vessel *Jinsei Maru*. The cargo, mostly new automobiles, was bound for the Middle East.

No wonder Scott Senko stays so busy.

As Area Operations Manager, or Port Captain, for NYK Line Baltimore, Senko is

responsible for the loading and unloading of all of the NYK Roll-On/Roll-Off (RO/RO) vessels calling at the Port. He has also been seen regularly in the "Maiden Voyages" section of the *Port of Baltimore Magazine*, celebrating the latest NYK ship to call on the Port. He noted that NYK has brought "six or seven new vessels here over the past few years, part of our very substantial ship-building program. It underlines NYK's stance in the RO/RO business around the world, and shows our commitment to it."

Senko, a 1993 graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, began his seafaring life in the Gulf of Mexico as an oil supply boat mate. After a year, he was hired by ITO Corporation in Baltimore; he has been

working here as either a superintendent or a port captain for various companies ever since ... no doubt because the Dundalk resident finds it the best Port he's seen yet.

"I tout this port quite a bit on what we can accomplish here," he said. "Everyone I deal with at the MPA [Maryland Port Administration] is so helpful. The quality of people here is exceptional. The communication is bar none. I've worked in other ports, ... and the collaboration here is amazing, what with the RO/RO Rodeo, QCHAT," and other programs.

Along with posing for "Maiden Voyages" pictures, Senko is also known locally for shooting his own stunning photography — "a passion," as he calls it. "I do mostly landscapes; I love being out in nature, it's a nice departure from my normal work life. It's an opportunity to get those creative juices going."

Urged on by family and friends, Senko had a show of his work at Baltimore's Waterfront Hotel several months ago. "I had to build up my courage to really put myself out there, but I'm glad I did it," he said.