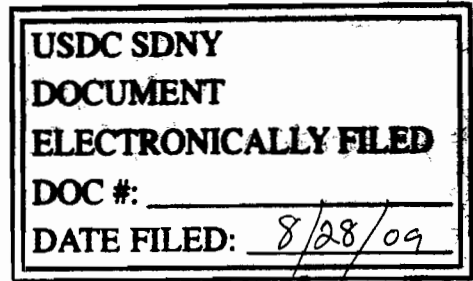


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK



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AMERICAN STEAMSHIP OWNERS MUTUAL :  
PROTECTION AND INDEMNITY ASSOCIATION, :  
INC., :  
Plaintiff, :

-v-

ATLANTIC OIL MARITIME S.A., VERSTAT :  
SHIPPING, S.A., VILOR SHIPPING, S.A., :  
TREXEL OIL S.A., DUKE NAVIGATION S.A., :  
SOLUTION MARITIME S.A., AND DIAMOND :  
SEAWAYS S.A., :  
Defendants. :

----- X

09 CIV. 5959 (DLC)

MEMORANDUM  
OPINION & ORDER

Appearance:

For Plaintiff:  
Don Murnane, Jr.  
Manuel Molina  
Edward Carlson  
Freehill, Hogan & Mahar LLP  
80 Pine St.  
New York, NY 10005

DENISE COTE, District Judge:

Plaintiff has applied for a maritime attachment in this litigation, which will also resolve the merits of the parties' disputes. While it has shown an entitlement to an attachment, it requests that the Court issue an attachment order that varies in two material respects from the model order that this Court adopted in April 2009.

First, the plaintiff seeks an attachment of electronic funds transfers ("EFTs") that are destined for the benefit of the defendant as well as those originated by the defendant. This issue is currently being considered by the Court of Appeals in an appeal from Shipping Corp. of India, Ltd. v. Jaldhi Overseas PTE Ltd., No. 08 Civ. 4328 (JSR), 2008 WL 2596229, (S.D.N.Y. June 27, 2008). Pending a decision by the Court of Appeals, this Court will only authorize attachments of EFTs originated by the defendant, despite having taken a contrary position in Novoship (UK) Ltd. v. Ruperti, 567 F. Supp. 2d 501 (S.D.N.Y. 2008), and Noble Shipping, Inc. v. Euro-Maritime Chartering Ltd., No. 03 Civ. 6039, 2003 U.S. Dist LEXIS 23008 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 24, 2003). See Seamar Shipping Corp. v. Kremikovtzi Trade Ltd., 461 F. Supp. 2d 222 (S.D.N.Y. 2006).

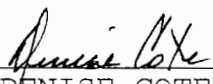
Second, the plaintiff seeks appointment of its own process server, arguing that such appointment is permitted by the plain language of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and will avoid "burdening the U.S. Marshal." The Federal Rules permit but do not require appointment of a special process server. Rule 4(c) Fed. R. Civ. P. See also Supplemental Rule B(1)(d)(ii), Fed. R. Civ. P. The U.S. Marshal in this district has made arrangements for the service of attachment orders and advised our Board of Judges that he will not be burdened by being required to make such service. The banking community has endorsed service by the

U.S. Marshal to avoid the abuses in which certain process services have engaged. Because the Court's model order permits supplemental service to be made by facsimile or other means if the garnishee so consents, the requirement that initial service be made through the U.S. Marshal is unlikely to impose any unreasonable financial burden on plaintiff. As a result, the request for the appointment of the plaintiff's own process server is denied.

Accordingly, in the event that the plaintiff wishes this Court to issue an order of attachment it shall provide a proposed order that conforms to the Court's model order available on this Court's webpage.

SO ORDERED:

Dated: New York, New York  
August 28, 2009

  
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DENISE COTE  
United States District Judge