

CONDOR 10 TO THE RESCUE AGAIN!

CONDOR 10 rescued a windsurfer from the sea off St Malo on Monday evening, just three days after playing a part in another rescue.

Over the weekend, Condor 10 was indirectly involved in the recovery of a motorboat in distress south of St Helier and on Monday evening it responded to an emergency call from the French coastguard about a windsurfer in difficulties south of Ile de Cezembre.

Despite the poor visibility, Condor's Bosun Gilles Paies spotted a dark shape bobbing in the water at 9.25pm and a working party, under the control of Chief Officer Tim Johnson, and a first aid party, directed by Cabin Manager Denise Downie was assembled.

As Captain Peter Aldous manoeuvred the ship close to the shape, it was identified as a windsurfer board without its sail up and being propelled by the missing man using his hands as paddles.

'It was very fortunate that we were within close proximity as with darkness falling, the windsurfer was at risk of developing severe hypothermia,' said Captain Peter Aldous.

'All of Condor's fleet are fully equipped to respond to emergency calls from nearby vessels and the Coastguard and we ensure that our staff are fully trained to deal with these situations. I would like to thank and praise everyone involved with this rescue.'

The windsurfer was able to reach the steps of Condor 10 and was brought onboard at 9.30pm and treated for possible hypothermia. Condor 10 continued its journey and arrived in St Malo at 9.45 where the 20-year-old windsurfer Rodolphe LeForestier from Dinard was examined by paramedics.

He told the crew that he had been trying to return to shore in daylight but the wind had died and he had been fighting the tide for more than three hours.

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Notes to Editors

About Condor Ferries

Condor Ferries was founded in 1964 and initially operated a passenger service between France and the Channel Islands. In 1987 the first service linking the Channel Islands with the UK was launched and since then Condor Ferries has operated a year-round service connecting the UK through Poole, Weymouth and Portsmouth, the Channel Islands through Guernsey and Jersey and the ports of St Malo and Cherbourg in France.

Condor Ferries operates Condor Vitesse, Condor Express, and Condor 10 fast cat ferries. In 1999 Commodore Clipper, a conventional car, passenger and freight carrying vessel was introduced to the fleet to offer an all weather, year round service. Each year Condor Ferries carries some 900,000 passengers and 200,000 passenger vehicles.

Condor Ferries also operates Commodore Goodwill, as a freight only vessel. The Condor Ferries fleet carries 100,000 freight vehicles into the Channel Islands each year as well as exporting tonnes of local produce.

Condor Ferries is also an active member of the communities within which it operates and supports numerous organisations, sports and charities through sponsorship and travel.

More information about Condor Ferries and its services is available at www.condorferries.com.