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Finance chief leaves Hudner for Heidmar because of family ties

Since Michael Hudner's B+H companies left Stamford, Connecticut for the Newport, Rhode Island area several years ago, Charles N Tammara has faced the same routine: leaving behind his wife and children in Rockland County, New York at the start of each work week for a three-hour-plus commute up Interstate 95.

Tammara says it was the desire to see more of his family that caused him to quit as Hudner's chief financial officer last week for a new job with Heidenreich Marine Inc (Heidmar) in Greenwich, a Connecticut community on the New York border.

"I had not moved my family and it was not the easiest situation," Tammara said last week. "But it was tough leaving. I had a lot of good experience with Mike Hudner. It was like 20 years experience in six years"

Hudner says: "Charlie spoke to me about moving on for the first time about 15 months ago. It was quite draining for him to be coming up here and living in a hotel room... We'll miss him terribly."

Hudner says Anthony Dalzell, who was B+H's chief financial officer from 1988 to 1992, will resume his old post.

At Heidmar, Tammara will be in charge of special projects and acquisitions under Per Heidenreich, the founder, chairman and CEO of the company.

Heidmar, which also has offices in England and Norway, operates a fleet of 19 Panamax tankers. It owns two and operates the remainder on time-charter or profit-sharing arrangements.

Heidenreich says the company is looking toward renewal of its ageing fleet through newbuildings and other options.

Tammara, age 50, has 22 years of finance-related shipping experience. Prior to joining B+H, he held senior financial positions at both Marine Transport Lines (MTL) and OMI Corp.

Hudner, meanwhile, says B+H continues a cautious strategy of expansion, with a fleet now totalling 10 product tankers and three bulkers. He says the company is especially interested in expanding its product-tanker operations.

By Joe Brady