

PEAK EXPERIENCES

European employees combine mountaineering with fundraising to support charities.

Swirling mists and rain of a Welsh summer, blistered feet, lack of sleep and climbing 3,000 vertical meters were all part of this year's Three Peaks Challenge. In mid-June, five teams from Cargill scaled the three highest peaks in the UK to raise funds for the British & International Sailors' Society.

The peaks: Ben Nevis in Scotland (1,344 meters), Helvellyn in England (950 meters) and Snowdon in Wales (1,085 meters).

Two weeks later, six teams of European employees completed that challenge, plus added a fourth peak – Carantouhill in Ireland – to raise funds for Wooden Spoon, a charity founded by rugby enthusiasts to help physically and mentally disadvantaged children.

The aim of both competitions was to complete the back-to-back climbs in minimum time while raising the maximum amount of funds.

All the Cargill teams earned awards for various feats during the Three Peaks Challenge, including the top fundraiser award for the team of Jeremy Bryan, Daudi

Lelijveld and Dave Rogers.

Captain Jonathan Stoneley of Cargill's Ocean Transportation was lead organizer for the competition, and a Cargill Geneva



team provided the timing services with customary Swiss precision.

The Cargill teams played a part in raising an astounding 511,000 pounds sterling (\$920,000) for international seamen missions. Cargill has pledged its funds for three missions in Africa and India.

"Bear in mind that most crews are from

Bangladesh, Philippines, China and India where there is little to no social support for families," said Dave Rogers, president of Cargill International. "We *do* make a difference in very positive ways to a lot of communities."

The Four Peaks Challenge followed in late June with six Cargill teams raising 104,500 pounds sterling and taking two major trophies. Cargill's "Peak Early" team won the event's major prize, the Challenge Award, for raising 19,000 pounds sterling with a climbing time of 8 hours, 18 minutes for the four peaks. Cargill's "Special FX" team won the Corporate Challenge Award for most funds raised.

In the Three Peaks Challenge, the Cargill team of (l-r) Roger Weber, Eliane Genswein and Iain Collinson won first prize and the Cargill Cup based on their times and sponsorship. Here they are on Ben Nevis in Scotland.

Below: Cargill climbers take on The Devil's Ladder at Carantouhill in southwest Ireland. This was a fourth peak added for climbers raising funds for Wooden Spoon.

