



FISHKEEPING HIT BY AIR DISASTER

OFI (Ornamental Fish International) has received the terrible news that its Secretary General, Dr. Alex Ploeg, his wife Edith, their son Robert and his friend Robin, perished in the plane crash above Ukraine on Thursday, 17 July.

They were on their way to a well-deserved and much-anticipated vacation in Asia.

Our condolences go out to their daughters, Mirjam and Sandra, family and friends.

The loss of Alex and Edith is immeasurable to OFI. Alex was much appreciated worldwide and a fount of knowledge about our industry. He was a keystone, not only for us, but also for EPO (European Pet Organization), Dibevo (the Dutch Pet Trade Association) and other organizations.

Alex's vast amount of contacts ranged from ministers to top civil servants in Brussels, Den Hague, Singapore and elsewhere, but also with workers on the floor, breeders and collectors. When he spoke, everyone in our industry listened.

His ability to express complex issues simply and logically made him a much-asked-for speaker at international conferences.

Gerald Bassleer

Roberto Hensen