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CAPInv. 793: U-MAC-008

I. LOCATION

i.	**Geographical area**	Macedonia
ii.	**Region**	Mygdonia
iii.	**Site**	Thessalonike

II. NAME

i.	Association with unknown name	U-MAC-008

III. DATE

i.	**Date(s)**	ii AD

V. SOURCES

i.	**Source(s)**	*IG* X.2.1 1041 (ii AD)
	Online Resources	*IG* X.2.1, 1041
i.a.	**Source type(s)**	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b.	**Document(s) typology & language/script**	Greek dedication.
i.c.	**Physical format(s)**	Ex-voto base.
ii.	**Source(s) provenance**	Thasos.

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii.	**Leadership**	If this was indeed an association (see under XIII.i: Evaluation, below), it was led by an ἀρχικερδέμπορος, *archikerdemporos* (ll. 7-8), Zoilos, who should most probably be identified with the co-owner of the ship Herakles.

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IX. MEMBERSHIP

iv. Status	If this was indeed an association (see under XIII.i: Evaluation, below) it was formed by shipowners and merchants who were involved in long-distance commerce between Macedonia and Asia; Thasos, the find-spot of this dedication, was a well-known stop in that route.

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	Poland's (1909: 107) assumption that the (possible) association was called κερδέμποροι, *kerdemporoi*, is highly speculative.
iii. Bibliography	Nigdelis, P.M. (2006), *Επιγραφικά Θεσσαλονίκεια. Συμβολή στην πολιτική και κοινωνική ιστορία της αρχαίας Θεσσαλονίκης*, Thessaloniki Pleket, H. (1984), 'Urban Elite and the Economy in the Greek Cities of the Roman Empire', *MBAH* 3: 3-34. Poland, F. (1909), *Geschichte des griechischen Vereinswesens*, Leipzig: 109. vom Brocke, C. (2001), *Thessaloniki: Stadt des Kassanders und Gemeinde des Paulus*, Tübingen: 76-7.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Possible
Note	The majority of scholars, from Poland 1909: 109, 192 onwards (see Nigdelis 2006: 453-4 with earlier literature, to which add vom Brocke 2001: 76-7), posit that this dedication was made by an association of shipowners and merchants. Pleket 1984: 13 n. 47 has reasonable doubts and assumes that Epiktetos and Zoilos were not the shipowners, but commercial representatives of the actual owners. Nigdelis 2006: 452-4 no. T32 rightly observes that the term ἀρχικερδέμπορος, *archidemporos*, points to an association, led by Zoilos. In fact, the interpretation of this commercial venture as part of the function of a business association is not incompatible with Pleket's interpretation: some form of associative company is possible (or even probable) in this case even if the actual owners were not its members.

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