



香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Fatal Accident to a Cargo Loading Master when Transferring between Vessels

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Masters, Officers and Crewmembers

Summary

A fatal accident happened when a cargo loading master (the CLM) disembarked from a Hong Kong registered ship (*the Vessel*) to a cargo barge (*the Barge*). While the CLM stepped on a rubber tyre fender and was about to climb up to *the Barge*, he was crushed between the sides of the two vessels due to the effects of the wind and swell which caused the two vessels rolled and swayed suddenly. The CLM died instantly in the incident. The investigation revealed that there had been no safe means of access for personnel transfer between the vessels.

The Incident

1. After completion of cargo loading at the anchorage area in Indonesia on 11 March 2007, the CLM disembarked from *the Vessel* to *the Barge* which was moored alongside.
2. The freeboard of *the Barge* was about the same level as the boat deck level of *the Vessel*. The CLM, accompanying by an Able Seaman attempted to board *the Barge* via the boat deck. After the CLM had landed on a rubber tyre fender at the port side of *the Barge*, both two vessels moved suddenly due to passing waves. The CLM was crushed between deck structures of the vessels and died instantly in the incident.
3. The investigation revealed that there had been no safe means of access for personnel transfer between the vessels.

Lessons Learnt

4. Safe means of access should be provided for personnel embarking and disembarking between vessels; and

5. Personnel should be aware of dangers of any unexpected ship movement while transferring people between vessels.

6. The attention of shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters, officers and crewmembers is drawn to the lessons learnt above.

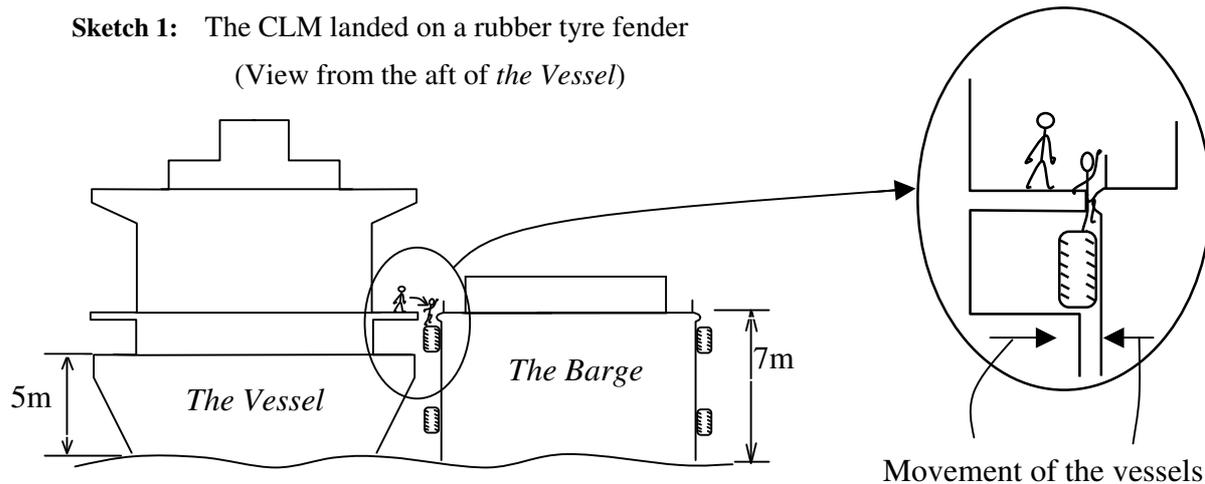


Figure 1: Sketch of the incident

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