

**The Hong Kong Registered Bulk Carrier Darya Preeth Collided with the
Cyprus Registered Bulk Carrier Lady in the South China Sea
On 1 July 2003**

A. The Incident

1. At about 0002 local time on 1 July 2003, the Hong Kong registered bulk carrier Darya Preeth collided with the Cyprus registered bulk carrier Lady in the South China Sea at the approximate position 01⁰53.5'N 104⁰45.7'E.
2. At the time of the accident, the weather condition was overcast. The wind was southwesterly at force 3 and the visibility was good.
3. Both vessels sustained considerable damages to the hull. There was no oil pollution and injury reported in the incident.

B. Findings

1. Darya Preeth, being a stand-on vessel, altered course to port for Lady which was on its port side.
2. Lady as a give-way vessel made a small alteration of course to starboard which had lead to a close-quarters situation resulting in a collision with Darya Preeth.
3. Both third officers of the Darya Preeth and Lady had failed to call their masters when the situation was getting complicated for them to handle.

C. Lessons

1. Officers in charge of the navigational watch should strictly following the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972.
2. Officers in charge of the navigational watch should not hesitate to make large deviation of course should such action be necessary to avoid close-quarters situation.