

Fatal accident on board m.v. “*Tai Ping*” on 22 July 2005

1. The Incident

- 1.1 On 22 July 2005, while the Hong Kong registered bulk carrier m.v. “*Tai Ping*” was on her voyage near the coast of Oman. An Able Seaman was found lying unconsciously on top of the canopy of the lifeboat on the port side. He was certified dead by the Master at the scene.
- 1.2 At the time of the accident, the Able Seaman was operating a high-pressure water jet cleaning machine which was placed underneath the subject lifeboat. Insulation test of the machine was conducted and found that the insulation resistance was low and considered unsafe to operate.

2. Lessons

- 2.1 In order to safeguard the users from electric shock, it is a good safety practice to maintain the electric high-pressure water jet cleaning machine in a good working condition for the intended purpose.