

Stevedore Crushed to Death by Granite Block on board m.v. "Aladdin Dream" on 7 December 2007

1. The Incident

- 1.1 An industrial accident happened onboard the Hong Kong registered ro-ro cargo ship "*Aladdin Dream*" at Western Anchorage No.3 on 7 December 2007. While unloading bulky granite blocks in the cargo hold, a stevedore was crushed by a granite block and sustained fatal injuries.
- 1.2 The granite blocks in the cargo hold were not properly stowed in the loading port. They were of varying dimensions. Some blocks were not leveled and many were not properly dunnaged and chocked.

2. Lessons

- 2.1 To facilitate the slinging of granite blocks during unloading, dunnage should be provided during loading cargo at the loading port. To prevent the collapse or shift of stacked granite blocks, small gaps between the blocks should be properly chocked and wedged with timber at the loading port.
- 2.2 When unloading stacked cargo, effective measures should be taken at all times to prevent the collapse/shifting of cargo.
- 2.3 Stevedores should have adequate knowledge of the risks in handling bulky and heavy granite blocks.