

A Fatal Accident of a lighterman inside cargo hold of a General Cargo Ship MV“*Forest Arrow*” at Western Anchorage, HK on 10 March 2013

1. The Incident

- 1.1 On 10 March 2013, a fatal marine industrial accident happened to a lighterman working inside No.1 cargo hold of the Panama registered general cargo vessel “*Forest Arrow*” (the *Vessel*) when anchored at the Western Anchorage, Hong Kong.
- 1.2 When No.2 derrick of the *Vessel* was used to lift the steel coils inside the cargo hold, the cargo sling and the starboard slewing wire of the derrick parted. The steel coils being lifted up halfway swung to the portside and dropped inside the cargo hold. A lighterman was hit by the parted steel wire and sustained fatal injury. He was sent to a hospital and was certified dead on the same day.

2. Lessons Learnt

To avoid recurrence of similar accident, it is important that:

- i. the lifting appliances on board the vessel were properly maintained in a safe working condition; and
- ii. all lifting gears used for cargo handling works should be well maintained, inspected and certified in accordance with the Shipping and Port Control (Works) Regulation, Cap. 313X.