

The collision between the Hong Kong registered bulk carrier “Inspiration Lake” and the Republic of Korea’s fishing vessel “209 Juyoung” in position 36°05.48’N 130°01.40’E on 10 January 2017

The incident

- 1.1 During en route from Taicang, China in ballast condition to Nakhodka, Russia, the Hong Kong registered bulk carrier “Inspiration Lake” collided with the Republic of Korea’s fishing vessel “209 Juyoung” in position 36°05.48’N 130°01.40’E at 1358 hours (UTC +9) on 10 January 2017.
- 1.2 After the collision, the fishing vessel capsized. Three fishermen including the master, chief engineer and a crew member were rescued by Korean Coast Guard; however, the chief engineer and the crew member died at the hospital. The remaining four fishermen were missing.
- 1.3 At the time of accident, the weather was partly cloudy with a good visibility of about 10 nautical miles. A northwesterly strong breeze was blowing, and sea condition was moderate.
- 1.4 The investigation revealed that both vessels did not comply with the requirements of rule 5 (Look-out) of COLREGS by not keeping an effective visual lookout and failed to determine the risk of collision by utilization of radar. Therefore, prior to the collision, both “Inspiration Lake” and the fishing vessel were not aware of the risk of collision or even the presence of the other vessel.

Lessons learnt

- 2.1 The officers of watch should comply with the requirements of rule 5 (Look-out) of COLREGS by keeping an effective lookout by all available means, and to determine the risk of collision by utilization of radar.
- 2.2 Being the sole lookout on the bridge at day time, the officer in charge of the navigational watch shall not be assigned or undertake any duties which would interfere with the safe navigation of the ship.