

Panama Maritime Authority

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Marine Accident investigation Department

M/V "MSC ELOISE" & FISHING BOAT "CIUTAT DE BENICARLO" R- 026-2012-DIAM

Date: 23rd May 2012



Department of Maritime Casualty Investigations





M/V "MSC ELOISE" IMO number 8917778 Register Number 33806-08

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION INTO THE COLLISION with

FISHING BOAT "CIUTAT DE BENICARLO" Register Number 3ª-CP-3-7-05 On the 23rd May 2012

Pursuant Resolution A.849(20) from the International Maritime Organization, approved on November 27th, 1997 which creates the Code for the Investigation of Marine Casualties and Incidents, as amended by Resolution A.884(21), approved on November 25th, 1999 as well as number 6 of section 30 of Decree Law No. 7 of February 10th, 1998 of the Republic of Panama, and Resolution 106-12-DGMM from Panama Maritime Authority, dated February 17th, 2009; all require that the Marine Casualty Investigation Branch should exercise full, direct control of all casualties having occurred in Panamanian jurisdictional waters, as well as to casualties on Panamanian flagged vessels no matter where they occur.

The investigation was conducted independently from the Spanish Maritime Investigation Committee but with all information shared and both publishing separate reports.

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GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIS Automatic Identification System
BMA Bahamas Maritime Authority

BV Bureau Veritas CM Crisis Manager

CMS Crescent Marine Services

COG Course over Ground

COLREG Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea

DOC Document of compliance
ECR Engine control room
ETA Estimated time of arrival

IMO International Maritime Organization

KG Distance from the keel to the centre of gravity

Kt knot kW Kilowatt

LRIT Long Range identification and Tracking

LT Local Time

MARPOL International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from

Ships

MCA Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MCR Maximum Continuous Rating

MGN Marine Guidance Note

MSC Maritime Safety Committee (of IMO)

Mt metric tonnes

OOW Officer of the Watch
OS Ordinary Seaman

PMA Panama Maritime Administrator SMS Safety Management System

SOG Speed over Ground

SOLAS International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea

STCW Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers

S-VDR Simplified Voyage Data Recorder UTC Universal Co-ordinated Time

VDR Voyage Data Recorder

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INVESTIGATION OBJECTIVES

Ref. IMO Resolution A.849 (20) CODE FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS.

The objective of any marine casualty investigation is to prevent similar casualties in the future. Investigations identify the circumstances of the casualty under investigation and establish the causes and contributing factors, by gathering and analysing information and drawing on conclusions. Ideally, it is not the purpose of such investigations to determine liability, or apportion blame. However, the investigating authority should not refrain from fully reporting the causes because fault or liability may be inferred from the findings.

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Panama registered container ship MSC ELOISE was in collision with a Spanish registered fishing boat CIUTAT DE BENICARLÓ at 08.10 hrs LT (UTC + 1) on Wednesday 23rd May 2012.
- 1.2 The MSC ELOISE was heading South Easterly in Western Mediterranean ,Spanish waters, north of Castellón and CIUTAT DE BENICARLÓ was heading, among a group of other fishing boats ,South Westerly towards Islotes de Columbretes (39°54′N, 0°41′E) as seen below

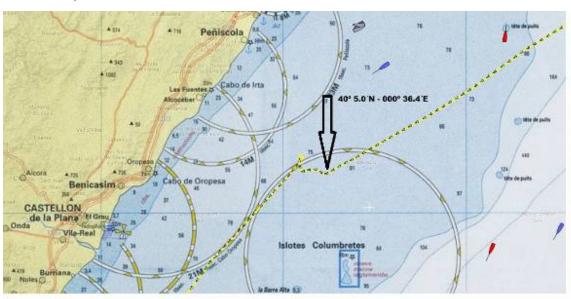


Figure 1 – MSC ELOISE AIS track, location of collision and location of Islotes Columbretes

- 1.3 MSC ELOISE was on a voyage between Barcelona (Spain) to Valencia (Spain) loaded with one hundred and fifty seven (157) 20ft containers and three hundred and forty (340) 40ft containers. At the time of the collision, the visibility was good with a slight sea and a gentle breeze (Force 3)
- 1.4 At the time of the collision the bridge was attended by the Chief Officer who had been on duty since 04.00 hrs LT. The Master came up to the bridge to check how things were going and the 3rd Officer came up shortly afterwards to be handed over the watch.

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- 1.5 Upon arrival of Master on the bridge, he was informed about a number of fishing boats forward of them and on a collision course. The fishing boats were seen on the ARPA and were located on the vessel's starboard side.
- 1.6 A number of these fishing boats increased their speed and passed well clear ahead of the vessel. Other fishing boats adjusted their course and speed ,moving astern of the vessel ,except for one, which was noted to continue approaching closer.
- 1.7 At that time the 3rd Officer arrived on the bridge to take over the watch from the Chief Officer. The 3rd Officer was asked to stand by the hand steering.
- 1.8 The Chief Officer sounded the ship's whistle to draw the fishing boat's attention.
- 1.9 The Master ordered hard to starboard which was immediately executed by the 3rd Officer in order to prevent the fishing boat approaching the propeller. This manoeuvre reduced the contact between the vessel's starboard side parallel body and the forward end of the fishing boat.
- 1.10 The collision occurred at 08, 10 hrs LT in position 40° 50.0′ N 000° 36.4′E. while the vessel was on a heading of 242° with a speed of about 19 kt.
- 1.11 Vessel gradually stopped engine and maneuvered to check the fishing boat's condition and called the fishing boat but with no reply. Traffic control was also called on channel 16 with no immediate reply being received.
- 1.12 Other fishing boats turned around and approached the damaged fishing boat which returned back with her own propulsion at a speed of about 8 knots.
- 1.13 Neither visual damages nor pollution was observed and only small scratches on the hull coating were seen on the vessel's parallel body.





1.14 The vessel resumed her voyage to Valencia, Spain on the same day at 09,30 hrs LT whilst the fishing boat was moving away back to shore.

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2. PARTICULARS OF MSC ELOISE

NAME : MSC ELOISE

FLAG : PANAMA

PORT OF REGISTRY : PANAMA

OFFICIAL NUMBER : 33806-08

CALL SIGN : 3ENH9

IMO NUMBER : 8917778

TYPE : CONTAINER CARRIER

NUMBER OF CREW : 23

L.O.A. : 240.77 m

L.B.P : 225.83 m

BREADTH : 32.20 m

DEPTH : 19.074 m

G.R.T : 37,902

N.R.T : 14,496

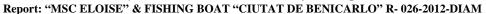
DEAD WEIGHT : 44,541

The vessel is powered by a Diesel United – SULZER slow speed main engine which develops 20,294 BHP driving a right handed fixed propeller.

The containers are carried in a total of six (6) cargo holds and on the deck. The vessel has a total TEU capacity of 2,440, of which 1170 are on deck.

The vessel was built on 1990 in Kure, Japan at Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. And formerly named ARAFURA. At the time of the collision she was owned by C.N.E. COMPAÑIA NAVIERA ELOISE S.A. of Panama and bareboat chartered to MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company S.A. of Geneva, Switzerland. She was managed by MSC Shipmanagement Limited of Limassol, Cyprus registed with the company ID 5335590

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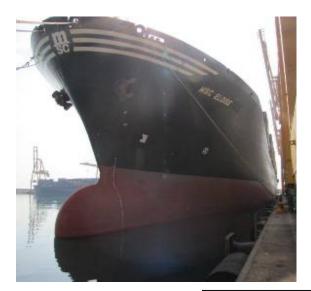




Figure 2,3,4 – MSC ELOISE General views

The vessel is classed with Bureau Veritas Classification Society. At this time she complied with all statutory and international requirements and certification.

The MSC ELOISE was last inspected by the Panama Maritime Administration in Balboa (Panama) on the 27th July 2011 with no deficiencies or observations recorded.

The last Port State Control (Paris-MOU) inspection was carried out in Bremenhaven (Germany) on the 09th October 2011 with no deficiencies or observations recorded.

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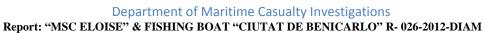


Ship Certificates

Bridge Equipment

The vessel was fitted with the following navigational equipment on the bridge

Equipment / S/N No.	MANUFACTURE	ТҮРЕ
S-VDR (090201052-M)	Beijing highlander Digital Tech.	HLD-52
RADAR X-BAND (5538)	FURUNO	MU-231CR
RADAR S-BAND (3322-1009)	FURUNO	RDP-115-A
AIS	FURUNO	FA-100
GPS	FURUNO	GP-150
DGPS	LEICA	MX 400
GPS	MAGNABOX	MX 100
MAGNETIC COMPASS	TOKYO KEIKI	-
SPEED LOG	YOKOGAWA	-
COURSE RECORDER	TOKYO KEIKI	CR.1
ECHO SOUNDER	JRC	JFE-680





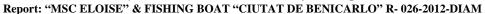


The last performance test of the S-VDR was carried out by manufacturer's shore service on the 18th July 2011 in Balboa, Panama.

Communication equipment fitted on the bridge was as follows,

Equipment	MANUFACTURE	TYPE
VHF - DSC	SKANTI	VHF 1000
MF - DSC	SKANTI	DSC 9000
INM -C	THRANE & THRANE	TT 3020B
2-WAY VHF (3)	SKANTI	VHF9110
FLEET 77	THRANE & THRANE	F77
LRIT	THRANE & THRANE	3000SSA
NAVTEX	JRC	NCR300A
SARTS	SAILOR	SART II
EPIRB	MCMURDO	E5

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3. PARTICULARS OF CIUTAT DE BENICARLO

NAME : CIUTAT DE BENICARLO

FLAG : Spanish

HOME PORT : Benicarló

OFFICIAL NUMBER : 3a-CP-3-7-05

TYPE : Fishing

PORT OF REGISTRY: Vinaroz

CALL SIGN : EA8375

NUMBER OF CREW: 4

L.O.A. : 23.25 m

L.B.P : 19.94 m

BREADTH : 5.86 m

DEPTH : 3.16 m

G.R.T : 66

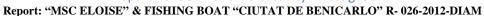
Hull Material : Reinforced Fibre Glass Polyester

The boat is powered by a CATERPILLAR high speed main engine, type 3508 TA-3B which develops 367.65 kW

The vessel was built in April 2005 in Benicarló, Spain at ASFIBE S.A.

At the time of the collision she was owned and operated by SUBARRA S.L. of Benicarló, Spain.

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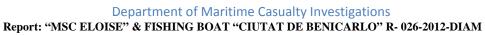


The vessel is classed with The Spanish administration. At the time she complied with all national requirements and certification.

The CIUTAT DE BENICARLÓ was last inspected out of the water by the Spanish Maritime Administration in Benicarló, (Spain) on the 10th August 2011.

CERTIFICATE NAME/ ID No.	ISSUED	ISSUED	EXPIRES
CERTIFICATE NAME, ID NO.	BY	ON	ON
FISHING CERTIFICATE OF TONNAGE	Spain	25.08.2005	
(294692)	•	23.08.2003	
FISHING BOAT CERTIFICATE LESS THAN	Spain	19.11.2010	10.08.2013
24 METRES IN LEGTH	Spain	19.11.2010	10.06.2013
RADIO CERTIFICATE	Spain	02.09.2011	10.08.2012
(33806-08)	~pum	02.03.2011	10.00.2012

Boat Certificates





Bridge Equipment

The boat was fitted with the following navigational equipment on the bridge

Equipment	MANUFACTURE	ТҮРЕ
Magnetic Compass	Fitted	
Fog Whistle	Fitted	
Echo Sounder	FURUNO	FCV-271
RADAR	FURUNO	M-1942 MK2
GPS	FURUNO	GP-36

Communication equipment fitted on the bridge was as follows,

Equipment	MANUFACTURE	ТҮРЕ
NAVTEX	FURUNO	NX-300
VHF – DSC	FURUNO	FM-8800S
VHF - DSC	SAILOR	RT-2048
MINI-C	THRANE & THRANE	TT 3026 ECTRACK
EPIRB	ACR	GLOBALFIX 406





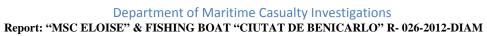
4. VDR DATA REVIEW

TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:00.00 hrs	Radar set on 12NM range and safety ring 2NM Approx 3 boats about to cross Approx 6 NM ahead. Approx 8 boats Stbd on collision course Autotune HDE 242.0*T GYRD SPD 13.4KT BT NM ARPA IN THAIN ARPA	19.4 kt 242.0°
08:01.00 hrs	 Radar changed from night mode to day mode display 	19.5 kt 242.3°
08:02.30 hrs	 Radar set on 12NM range and safety ring 2NM 3 boats ahead ahead crossing 1st boat (from the Stbd group of 8) Stbd enters safety ring 	19.5 kt 242.8°





TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:03.28 hrs	 Radar set on 6NM range and safety ring 1NM Following comment is made: Will you take over the watch under this scenario? Some conversation and laughing 	19.5 kt 242.5°
08:05.12 hrs	• Vessel whistle short blast of 2 seconds 6/INM 3,65NH + 282.1*T + EAD UP TB ULSE2 RH	19.5 kt 242.3°
08:05.44 hrs	 Approx3 boats about to cross Approx 6 NM ahead. Approx 8 boats Stbd on collision course Other fishing boats remain on the Stbd side 	19.5 kt 242.0°
08:06.40 hrs	Someone reads speedSome conversation (not understandeable)	19.4 kt 242.7°
08:06.08 hrs	 Vessel whistle short blast of 4 seconds 	19.4 kt 242.3°
08:06.37 hrs	• Vessel whistle short blast of 7 seconds	19.4 kt 242.7°





TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:07.00 hrs	Radar set on 6NM range Boats ahead already crossed. Some of the boats Stbds in safety ring Hog 242.7*T GYRD SPD 19.4KT BT NA ARPA	19.5 kt 245.0°
08:07.27 hrs	 Several of the targets on the Stbd side. 2 targets ahead and one stbd quarter Order given Port 10 	19.5 kt 242.8°
08:07.40 hrs	 Vessel whistle short blast of 8 seconds 	19.5 kt 242.8°
08:08.30 hrs	 Order given Port 10? (Quality of recording low) Vessel whistle short blast of 3-4 seconds 	19.5 kt 242.3.°
08:08.346 hrs	• Order given Port 10? (Quality of recording low)	19.5 kt 237.3.°







TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:08.55 hrs	 Midship order given Midship order acknowledged Vessel's Horn heard on recording 	19.4 kt 237.3°
08:09.03 hrs	Steady Order recorded	19.3 kt
08:09.05 hrs	• Vessel's Horn heard on recording	19.3 kt
08:09.18 hrs	Vessel's Horn stoppedStarboard 10 order given	19.3 kt 236.7°
08:09.21 hrs	• Order given midship 230°	19.3 kt 232.2°
08:09.22 hrs	 Vessel's Horn heard for the second time with long blast 	19.3 kt 236.7°
08:09.24 hrs	Someone says "Steady, steady, steady"	19.2 kt
08:09.35 hrs	 Order given Hard Starboard Hard Starboard order confirmed 	19.0 kt 230.2°
08:09.40 hrs	Order given Hard PortHard Port order confirmed	19.0 kt 230.2°





TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:09.46 hrs	- Impact noise heard outside 6/INH 3.65NH + 259.8*T + 259 U.SE2 RH 29.8*T + 259 U.SE2 RH 252 S2 S2 S2 S2 S2 S2 S2 S3 S3 S3 S4 S5 S5 S5 S5 S5 S5 S5 S6 S7	19.0 kt 230.2°
08:09.49 Hrs	Order given Hard to Starboard	19.0 kt 230.2°
08:09.55 hrs	■ Vessel's Horn Stopped	19.0 kt 230.2°
08:10.00 hrs	Hard Starboard confirmed	19.0 kt 230.2°
08:10.18 hrs	 Order to slow down Starboard 10 order given 	18.9 kt 227.0
08:10.21 hrs	Someone calls the engine to slow down	18.6 kt





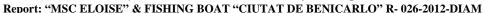
TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:10.32 hrs	"Steady"Phone is put down	18.6 kt
08:10.42 hrs	Order given Hard PortOrder Hard Port acknowledged	17.6 kt 245.2.5°
08:11.28 hrs	Someone talks on the phone (quality of record low)	16.6 kt 260.8°
08:11.35 hrs	• VHF Talking? (quality of record low)	
08:12.00 hrs	• "262° steady"	
08:12.12 Hrs	 Chief mate calls Valencia MRC on VHF No reply 	
08:12.35 hrs	Chief mate calls on VHF "copy anybody?"No reply	
08:13.00 hrs	Order given Hard to Port	
08:13.30 hrs	 Chief mate calls Valencia traffic control on VHF No reply 	
08:19.00 hrs	Chief mate calls Valencia pilots on VHFNo reply	
08:20.00 hrs	Weather bulletin announced on VHF for all ships	





TIME	EVENT	Speed Heading
08:21.00n hrs	Someone on bridge contacts fishing boat by VHFNo reply	
08:21.35hrs	 Chief mate calls Valencia traffic control on VHF No reply 	!
08:22.10 hrs	 Chief mate calls Valencia coast guard on VHF No reply 	
08:23.10 hrs	• From VHF apparently fishing boat is talking on VHF with Valencia traffic control. The sentenceno damagesis heard (Record quality low)	
08:23.52 Hrs	Chief mate calls Valencia Coast Guard on VHFNo reply	
08:34.00 hrs	 Chief mate calls Valencia traffic on VHF No reply 	
08:35.00 hrs	 Chief mate calls Valencia traffic on VHF Valencia replies on VHF 	
08:36.00 hrs	• Valencia traffic control is informed by vessel about the contact with a fishing boat	
08:37.08 hrs	Valencia traffic control calls vessel on VHF	
08:37.30 hrs	 Valencia traffic control calls vessel on to change to channel 72 	
08:37.44 hrs	Valencia traffic control is informed about collision and gives position	

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5. NARRATIVE OF EVENTS

- 5.1 All times noted in this report are given in the style of the standard 24-hour clock without additional annotations. Ship times used onboard was UTC +1 while all the times noted here are local time, UTC +2
- 5.2 Weather condition at the time of the collision:

Wind: NE Force 3
Sea and Swell: Slight
Barometer: 1020
Temperature: 20°C

Weather: Partly Cloudy

Visibility: Good

5.3 Bridge Team

Watch	oow	Lookout
00.00 - 04.00	2nd Officer	AB
04.00 - 08.00	Chief Officer	AB
08.00 - 12.00	3rd Officer	AB

Certification:

Master: Holding a valid Master unlimited COC issued by the

Government of India and Panamenian endorsement valid to

30th July 2014. Joined the ship on the 11th April 2012

Chief Officer: Holding a valid First Mate unlimited COC issued by the

Government of India and Panamanian endorsement valid to 16th May 2016. Joined the ship on the 15th December 2011

2nd Officer: Holding a valid Class 2 COC issued by the Maritime and Port

Authority of Singapore and Panamenian endorsement processing certificate valid to 13th July 2012. Joined the ship on

the 10th May 2012

3rd Officer: Holding a valid second mate COC issued by the Government of

India and Panamanian endorsement valid to 15th August 2016.

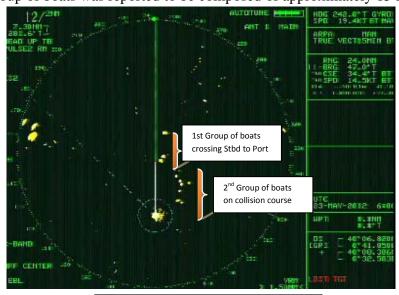
Joined the ship on the 12th January 2012



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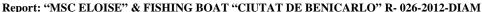


- 5.4 The MSC ELOISE sailed from the Port of Barcelona, Spain on the 23rd May 2012 at 22.20 hrs loaded with a total of one hundred and fifty seven (157) 20ft containers three hundred forty (340) 40ft containers. The vessel was destined for the Port of Valencia, Spain with a distance of one hundred and seventy one (171) nautical miles to be covered in nine hours and thirty one minutes (09:31) at an estimated speed of 17.5 knots.
- 5.5 The draft during the voyage was 7.30 metres forward and 7.70 metres aft.
- 5.6 On the 23rd May 2012 the 2nd Officer was on the watch from the time of departure to 04.00 hrs with nothing special or unusual reported.
- 5.7 The Chief Officer relieved the 2nd Officer minutes prior 04.00 hrs and continued with his watch with nothing special or unusual reported until 07.30 hrs
- 5.8 At 07.30 hrs the Chief Officer spotted a group of fishing boats approaching on the Starboard side.
- 5.9 After breakfast, the Captain went to the bridge to check if everything was in order on the bridge, entering the bridge about 07.50 hrs.
- 5.10 When arriving on the bridge the Captain found the Chief Officer looking forward to a group of fishing boats situated forward on the starboard side.
- 5.11 This Group of boats was reported to be composed of approximately 15 fishing boats.



VDR - Radar: 23rd May 12 08,00 hrs (UTC+2)

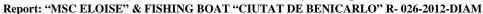
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- 5.12 Immediately about (5) fishing boats were noted crossing 2 NM ahead while about another five (5) altered course and speed to pass astern.
- 5.13 About another three (3) boats remained on the starboard side getting closer but it was assumed that the situation was under control.
- 5.14 At about 07.55 hrs the 3rd officer arrived on the bridge to take over the watch from the Chief Officer. Upon arriving on the bridge he found the Chief Officer and the Captain on the starboard side of the bridge looking at the fishing boats.
- 5.15 The Captain instructed the 3rd Officer to switch the steering to manual and remain in the helmsman's position.
- 5.16 Two of the boats altered course while the other one seemed to increase speed but without altering her course.
- 5.17 At that stage the chief officer activated the ship's horn several times to draw the fishing boat's attention.
- 5.18 The Captain gave the order to alter course to Port and quickly changed his mind to put the ship hard to starboard in view that the fishing boat was not changing either speed or course and hence avoiding the boat moving into the propeller area.
- 5.19 The MSC ELOISE had a speed of 19, 0 knots heading on a course of 320.2° and the CIUTAT DE BENICARLO was estimated to have a speed of 10 knots and heading approximately 310°/320°
- 5.12 At 08.09 the fishing boat collided with the ship's starboard side parallel body.
- 5.13 After the collision the Master and the Chief Officer saw one person on the aft part of the boat.
- 5.14 The MSC ELOISE speed was gradually decreased while the Master and Chief Officer kept an eye on the boat.
- 5.15 The other fishing boats turned around and approached the CIUTAT DE BENICARLÓ.

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- 5.16 After few minutes the CIUTAT DE BENICARLÓ sailed back to shore.
- 5.17 Several attempts were made to contact the fishing boat and traffic control on VHF but no reply was received until 08.35 hrs
- 5.18 The MSC ELOISE continued to her next destination, the Port of Valencia.

6. DAMAGES

MSC ELOISE

6.1 The following damages were reported:

Several LIGHT scratches on hull paint were reported from Hold no. 3 to Hold no. 5 on the starboard side parallel body above the waterline.



Figure 7 – MSC ELOISE light scratches on parallel body

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CIUTAT DE BENICARLO

- 6.2 The following damages were provisionally reported pending of repairs:
 - Forward bulwark and deck cracked
 - Forward hull damaged and cracked
 - Bulbous bow damaged



Figure 8 – CIUTAT DE BENICARLO Damages on forward end

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7. ANALISYS

Watchkeeping

- 7.1 Neither the speed or course were changed by MSC ELOISE nor any of the fishing boats until becoming too close ,hence leaving officers of the MSC ELOISE unable to foresee what action the fishing boats would take.
- 7.2 Of the remaining three (3) boats on the starboard side and close to collsion ,only two (2) reacted quickly enough following vessel's several whistle blasts.
- 7.3 Waiting until the fishing boats approached too close to the MSC ELOISE also limited the manoeuvrability of the vessel, since the last three (3) boats were on the starboard side while others had crossed and were on the forward quarter on the port side.

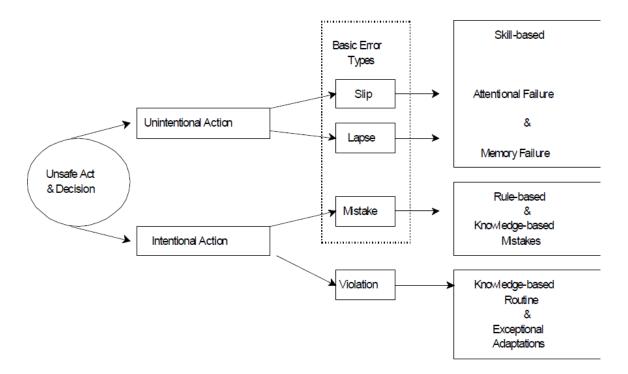
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8. HUMAN ERROR ANALISYS

The analysis is drawn from the figure below with the identification of the type error or violation



CIUTAT DE BENICARLO

8.1 Based on the fact and the assumption that the lookout of the boat might have been away from the navigational bridge the error lies on an intentional action leading to a mistake.

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MSC ELOISE

8.2 The Chief Officer saw the boats about forty (40) minutes prios the collision. Captain and Chief Officer assumed that the action to avoid collision would have been taken by the boats hence putting the error into an intentional action leading to a mistake.

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9. CONCLUSIONS

COLREG

- 9.1 Rule 5 on PART B, Section I estates the following: **Every vessel shall at all times maintain a proper look-out by sight and hearing** as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and of the risk of collision.
 - 9.1.1 Having heared on the VDR the ship's horn in several occasions and in view that the watchman on the CIUTAT DE BENICARLO did alter neither the speed nor the course, gives a clear opinion that the lookout was ineffective from the navigational bridge.
- 9.2 Rule 5 on PART B, Section I states the following: Every vessel shall at all times proceed at a safe speed so that she can take proper and effective action to avoid collision and be stopped within a distance appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions.

In determining a safe speed the following factors shall be among those taken into account:

- (a) By all vessels:
 - ii. The traffic density including concentrations of fishing vessels or any other vessels
 - iii. The manoeuvrability of the vessel with special reference to the stopping distance and turning ability in the prevailing conditions.
- (b) Additionally with vessels with operational radar
 - v. The number, location and movement of vessels detected by radar.
 - 9.2.1 MSC ELOISE did not alter her speed despite having seen the group of boats approaching on the starboard side.

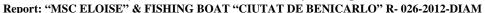
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- 9.3 Rule 8(b) on PART B, Section I estates the following: <u>Any alteration of course and/or speed to avoid collision shall, if the case of the circumstances of the case admit, be large enough to be readily apparent to other vessel observing visually or by radar;</u> a succession of small alterations of course and/or speed should be avoided.
 - 9.3.1 Almost half of the fishing boats remained with an unaltered speed and/or course until approaching to within a dangerous distance from the starboard side of the MSC ELOISE. Such action made it difficult to forsee the next step or action of the remaining last three (3) boats on the starboard side , hence the Captain and officers were unable to make a decision in time to avoid collision.
 - 9.3.2 The MSC ELOISE did not alter speed or course despite having seen a group of fishing boats approaching on collision course approximately 40 minutes before the collision.
- 9.4 Rule 15 on PART B, Section I estates the following: When two power driven vessels are crossing so as to involve risk of collision, the vessel which has the other on her own starboard side shall keep out of the way and shall, if the circumstances of the case admit, avoid crossing ahead of the other vessel.
 - 9.4.1 The MSC ELOISE had the fishing boats on her starboard side and no attempts to change course and crossing ahead of the other vessel were observed.

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COMPANY SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- 9.5 Master's Standing Orders Paragraph 2, estates the following: The international regulations for preventing collision at sea are to be strictly observed do not hesitate to use the whistle or engine in obeying these regulations. When altering course for another vessel do so bodly and in sufficient time to let any other vessel be in doubt as to your intentions.
 - 9.5.1 The fishing boats were first sighted around 07.30 hrs (LT) and despite their known speed and course the MSC ELOISE did not alter course or speed.
- 9.6 Master's Standing Orders Paragraph 3, estates the following: All traffic, including fishing vessels and nets to be given a wide berth -2nm whenever possible. And navigational hazards to be given 5nm clearance. CPA's to be ascertained by plotting and not by assumptions/estimates.
 - 9.6.1 The standing orders were not properly implemented since no action was taken despite the said CPA's and safe distances.
- 9.7 Company Safety Management System, estates the following:
 - AVOID A CLOSE-QUARTER SITUATION AVOID A COLLISION!
 - -ALTERATION OF COURSE AND/OR SPEED SHALL COMMENCE NOT LATER THAN WHEN 5N.M. FROM THE TARGET VESSEL. Do not hesitate to reduce speed if required to avoid collision.
 - MAINTAIN MINIMUM 1 NAUTICAL MILE CPA, If this is not possible call the Master

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- 9.7.1 The posted SMS instructions give a 1NM CPA. Vessel did not make any efforts to change course and speed until the last minute on the assumption that the boats would alter course and speed in order to cross astern.
- 9.8 It is unknown if the fishing boat navigational bridge was unattended but surely the lookout was not properly maintained since all boats except the CIUTAT DE BENICARLO managed to alter course and speed although such alteration was carried out within a short distance from the vessel.

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10. RECOMENDATIONS

- 10.1 Ensure that in view of approaching fishing boats being most likely unable to understand any other language than the local/national language and in view of an approaching group of boats getting closer, speed and course is to be altered so as to avoid collision or approaching too close.
- 10.2 Owners/Operators of the MSC ELOISE should carry out a comprehensive review of the bridge watchkeeping within the Safety Management System throughout the Fleet.
- 10.3 Minimum safe distance from larger vessels should be imposed for fishing boats if underway with their own propulsion.
- 10.4 Proper fishing boat navigation lookout needs to be maintained on the CIUTAT DE BENICARLO

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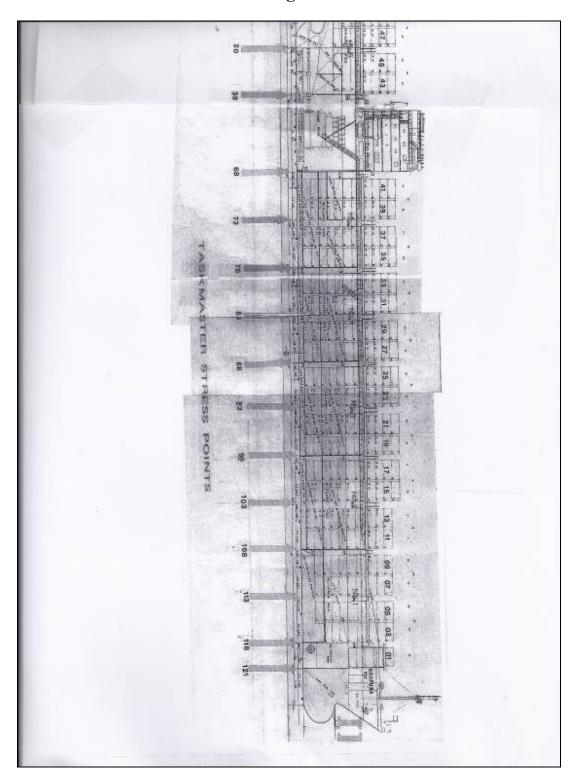


- 11. ANNEXES
- 11.1 MSC ELOISE General Arrangement
- 11.2 MSC ELOISE Master Official Estatement
- 11.3 MSC ELOISE LOG BOOK
- 11.4 MSC ELOISE Voyage Plan
- 11.5 MSC ELOISE Radio Log
- 11.6 MSC ELOISE Chart area of collision
- 11.7 MSC ELOISE Cargo plan
- 11.8 Press Realease

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11.1 MSC ELOISE General Arrangement



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11.2 MSC ELOISE Master Official Estatement

MSC ELOISE DATE: 23-MAY-2012 MASTERS STATEMENT OF FACTS VESSEL EN ROUTE TO VALENCIA ON 23.05.10 VESSEL ENCOUNTERED FISHING TRAFFIC (AROUND 15-16 BOATS) CROSSING FROM STARBOARD TO FEW OF THEM WERE PASSING WELL AHEAD AND SOME OFF THEM PASSING THROUGH OUR ASTERN WELL CLEAR. THEY WERE ADJUSTING THE COURSE AND SPEED AS PER THEIR CONVENIENCE. ONE OF THEM WAS FOUND COMING CLOSE. CHIEF OFFICER SOUNDED THE SHIP'S WHISTLE TO DRAW HER ATTENTION. 3⁶⁰ OFF WAS ON HELM AND ON MY ORDER HELM PUT OVER TO HARD STBD WHICH COULD NOT PREVENT THE CONTACT BUT THE IMPACT WAS REDUCED AS IT WAS ONLY A GLANCING TOUCH. 0810 : CONTACT WITH FISHING VESSEL WAS ON STBD SIDE IN POSITION 40:05 N 000 36.4 E OFF CASTELLON THEREAFTER ENGINE WAS GRADULLY STOPPED. CALLED THE FISHING VESSELS TO CHECK IF EVERYTHING WAS ALLRIGHT ON THE BOAT, HOWEVER THERE ALSO CALLED TRAFFIC, COAST GUARD ON VHF CHANNEL 16. THEN FINNALLY REPORTED TO VALENCIA TRAFFIC ABOUT THE INCIDENT AROUND 0840 HRS. VESSEL WAS TURNED TOWARD THE SITE OF INCIDENCE FOR ASSISTANCE. FISHING VESSEL WAS FOUND INTACT AND NO CASUALTY AND POLLUTION NOTED. THE FISHING VESSEL STARTED MOVING TOWARDS THE SHORE WITH SPEED 7-8 KTS. At ABOUT 0908 HRS CASTELLON MRCC CALLED AND ASKED FOR RPTS AND INTENTIONS, MRCC CONFIRMED THAT THERE IS NO INJURY ON FISHING VESSEL AND NO MAJOR DAMAGE CAUSED. FISHING BOAT IS PROCCEDING TOWARS THE PORT OF BERICARLO. Details of fishing vessel as per MRCC SCIUDAD DE BENICARLO (ID NO 3CP3705) (white hull) THEN AT 0930 HRS VESSEL RESSUMED THE PASSAGE TO VALENCIA ON CONFIRMING THE SAME WITH MRCC. THAT TIME FISHING VESSEL WAS IN POSITION 40:15.5 N 000 31.4 E MOVING TOWARS PORT.

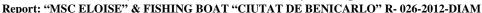




11.3 MSC ELOISE LOG BOOK

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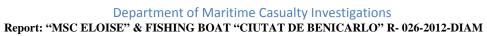
20 => FISHING BOAT COLLIDED ON STED LIDE AT POSM 40°050/000°3646. THEO TO CALL FIRMS BOAT / VTS/ COAST. BUT NUBBURY 0830 => BOSUM REPORTED ON W/T THAT ALL OTHER F.VIL APPROX TO COLLIDED FISHING | REAT AND THEN HOWER AWAY FROM 08 40 - THE CALLUED WE VALMEIN TEATHE REPLIED AND TAKE -FULL FORMATION 0908 -> CASTELLON RESCUE CENTER Contacted much Ship, Asked for all detail and internions and they confirmed no major damage and no injury / Eausily on me Justury viscel and Justury Vessel Proceeding toward Port Benicarlo 0920 : Observe fishing venel Proceeding toward shore to 333', std 9 detail of Justing vessel on Per MACC Name SCIUDAD DE BENICARLO ID No. 3CP3705 0930: After treforting MRCC vessel Institution Completed and vessel resumed lanage to velencia ofter MRCC levremon. Posture of Junery vessel @0930 40° 15.5 N 000° 31-4 E





11.4 MSC ELOISE Voyage Plan

	FROM BARCELONA TO VALENCIA	
	VESSEL MSC ELOISE DEADWEIGHT	
	DATE 22-05-12 DRAFTS: F. 7:3 m, A. 7:7 m, M. 7:5 m,	
	# ITEM	Checked
	Sequential set of charts prepared/corrected/ Chart change over	-
	2 Sailing directions read, noted, understood	
0	3 Light lists corrected	~
•	4 Tidal publications consulted	
	5 Stream and current atlas prepared	
	6 Climatic conditions considered (is weather routing required by charterer?)	
	7 Permanent and temporary Hazards for navigation	
	8 Margins of safety established	
	9 Transits, clearing bearings marked	
	10 Wheel-over positions on large scale charts	
	11 Tidal diamonds in use	7
	12 Parallel index points marked	~
	13 VHF communications noted	-
	14 Go/ no go as per Shipboard 02e & 07c	~
•	15 Safe anchorages marked	
	16 Courses/plan double-checked	
	17 Plan discussed with Master	
	18 Plan approved by Master	
	19 Plan consulted to all OOWS	~
	20 Has the minimum under keel clearance been calculated	V
	SIGNED: SA NAVIGATING OFFICER	-MASTER





(1) GENE	RAL INFORMATION		
Voyage nam	ber	4m1218/R	
Port of depar	ture	BARCELON	
Port of destil	nation	VALENCIA	
Intended spe	ed/charter speed	17.5 km	
Total distance	e	163 n.m.	
Total steami	ng time in hours	9-31 hrs	
ETD port of	departure	22-05-12	and the second s
ETA port of	destination	23-05-12	6930
Number of p	ages in this voyage plan		
All charts an have been co	d navigational publications rected up-to	NTM number: Dated:	No. 21 / 12-
General rema	BARCELONA:	= UTC + 2 = UTC + 2	
(2) ACKNO	DWLEDGEMENT		
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Prepared by: Name	SHAMSHER SING		XX
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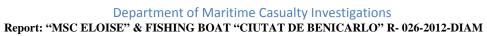
5) PORT OF DEPARTURE	INFORMATION	
lame of departure berth	Berth No	
HF channel Port Control	VHF CH 10/14/16	
HF channel VTS	BARCELONA TRAFFIC CHILO	HAV
'HF channel Pilots	vnf cn:14	
VHERE DOES EACH AREA C	CONTROL - mark change over points on chart a	nd record here for long pilotage: I.lt.
interest of the control of the contr		
Times of high and low water		
standard Port	BARCELONG	
Date	27/05/.12-	
	Time	Height
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W MW	0815	0·A
HW FM	1428	0.3
LW HH	21.42	0.5
Estimated druft on departure		
Forward	7.30 %	
Añ	7.70 4	
Min under keel elearance		
Vessel's max. air-draught		
Distance berth to Plt Stn	4.8 n.m.	
Estimated time to Ph Stn	hrs:min.	
Is there a change of Pilots?	Yes No (delete as appropriate)	
If yes, where:	. /	
If yes, where:	414	
If yes, where:		
Remarks: * Min UKC = Min charted de	pth + tide - squat - heel - Max draught	
Version 03/30 Jun 11	3 of 6	Form: Deck 23







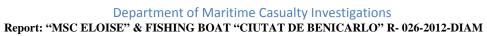
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Name of arrival berth	Berth No		
VHF channel Port Control			
VHF channel VTS	VALENCIA VIS	Contra	
VHF channel Pilots	VALENCIA PHAT	cur is lit	
WHERE DOES EACH AREA Hamburg Antwerp	CONTROL - mast change ourse	points on chart and record here for long pi	lotage; I.E.
Times of high and low water			
Standard Port	VALENCIA		
Date	23./95/12	Percentage	
***************************************	100000000000000000000000000000000000000		
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HW	14:06	0.2	
LW			
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Min under keel clearance	7-70		
Vessel's max. air-draught			
			-
Estimated time to benth	2, ≤ n.m.		
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If yes, where:	Yes/No (delete as appropria	ite)	
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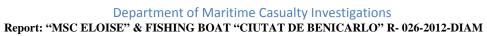
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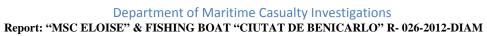
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	3		39° 26.2 N	000 19.0 W	295	0.4	
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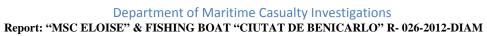
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	Page 1			





Course ASPER LIST	Distance	ASPER LIST	Speed
Engine status			
Position fixing method	RADA	R VISUAL CA	5
Minimum water depth	401 - 201		
VHF channels to be		Station:	
Monitored De		Station:	5,5416
Sailing directions	NP	45 & NP46	5
List of lights	ALL	VOL: E AL	RS 286(3)
Other navigational publications	Routing	thant 512	A ATT VOL'2
(8) PARALLEL INDEXING IN	FORMATION		
Target			
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Target			
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Target			
Minimum distance	1		
Prevailing current			
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Velocity			
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44 101	or mark		
Remarks: 1 HR PRIOR / CALL VALENCIA V Use as many copies of this page as r	T.S. C4 10	& VALENCI,	9 PILOT CH 11

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11.5 MSC ELOISE Radio Log

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DATE			10	74
19/05/12		3ENH9	L'ISDEZEA PROHIC	
20/05/12	0330	3EN H9	- " -	11
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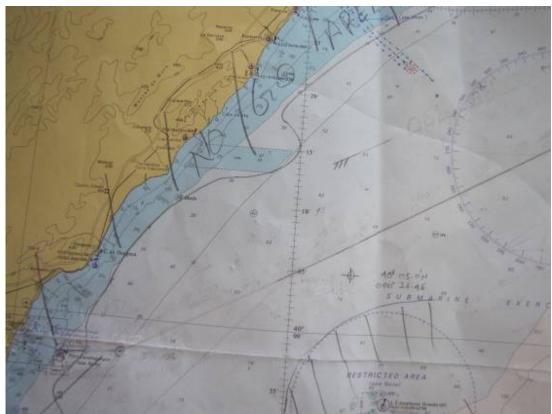
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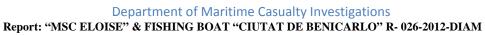
Department of Maritime Casualty Investigations
Report: "MSC ELOISE" & FISHING BOAT "CIUTAT DE BENICARLO" R- 026-2012-DIAM



11.6 MSC ELOISE Chart area of collision

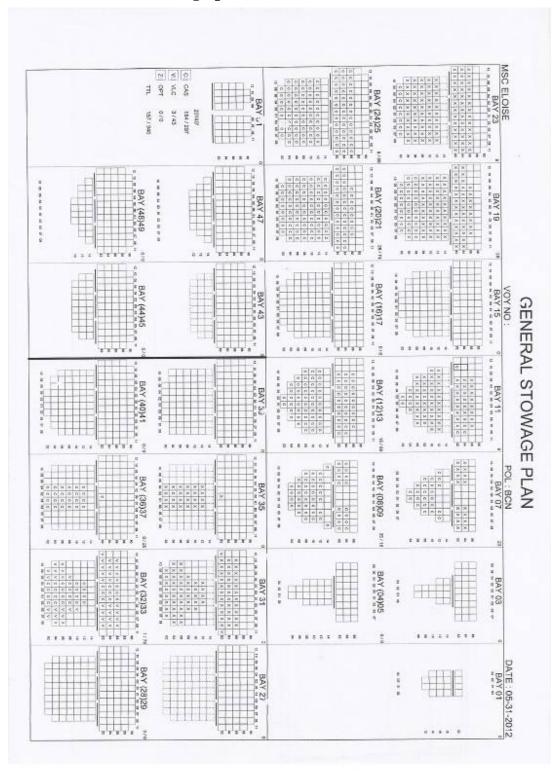








11.7 MSC ELOISE Cargo plan



Department of Maritime Casualty Investigations

Report: "MSC ELOISE" & FISHING BOAT "CIUTAT DE BENICARLO" R- 026-2012-DIAM



11.8 Press Realease



Department of Maritime Casualty Investigations





Un buque arrolla a un pesquero de Benicarló cerca de Columbretes - Comarcas - El ... Página 1 de 2

El Periódico Mediterraneo | Juoves, 21 de junio de 2012



Comarcas

BENICARLÓ EN ALTA MAR

Un buque arrolla a un pesquero de Benicarló cerca de Columbretes

Capitanía Maritima investiga las causas y determinará quién es el responsable. El barco faenaba junto a un grupo de embarcaciones en la zona de 'El Volante'

MARIA JOSÉ SÁNCHEZ 24/05/2012

El barco pesquero Ciutat de Benicarló y un buque portacontenedores se vieron involucrados ayer en una colisión en alta mar cerca de las islas Columbretes. Aunque aún están por determinarse las causas del accidente, parece ser que se debió a un error humano. El suceso se produjo por la mañana, cuando se encontraban alrededor de ocho o nueve embarcaciones en la zona, a la altura de la roca El Volante. Entre ellos, el accidentado que no pudo completar la maniobra para evitar el impacto y sufrió daños en proa.

Sin embargo, y a pesar de lo aparatoso del accidente, los tripulantes del buque de grandes dimensiones no se dieron cuenta de lo acontecido y el portacontenedores siguió su rumbo hasta que fue avisado por los marineros de las otras embarcaciones y por la unidad de salvamento marítimo, deteniendo su

El caso está siendo investigado por Capitania Marítima de Castellón que, una vez esclarecido, determinará los diferentes grados de culpabilidad y se instruirán las pertinentes diligencias. Mientras, el Ciutat de Benicarió se encuentra en las instalaciones del varadero de la empresa Oremar, a donde se desplazarán los peritos de las compañías aseguradoras para valorar el importe de los daños.

Cabe señalar que el barco pesquero volvió a puerto por sus propios medios sin necesidad de ser remolcado y, al sufrir desperfectos, deberá estar varias semanas en dique seco a la espera que finalicen las investigaciones y pueda llevarse a cabo su reparación.

La embarcación siniestrada es propiedad del armador Antonio Bayarri, que tendrá que hacer frente a los inconvenientes que confleva no poder salir a faenar, con el consiguiente perjuicio económico que provoca no disponer de los ingresos que supone comercializar las capturas. H

