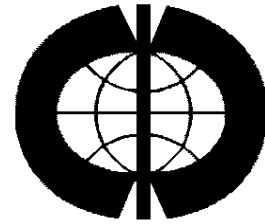


INTERCARGO

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News Release 01/13

Intercargo Calls for Swift Casualty Investigation into the Loss of the *Harita Bauxite*

The International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (Intercargo) has called for an early casualty investigation following the tragic loss of the bulk carrier *Harita Bauxite*.

The Panama-registered, 1983-built handymax ship which was reportedly carrying a cargo of nickel ore from Obi, Indonesia to China, sank on the evening of 17 February after suffering engine failure, possibly during poor weather.

Although ten crew were rescued by a passing ship, 14 crew remain unaccounted for.

Secretary General of Intercargo, Rob Lomas said “at this early stage, we cannot speculate about the cause of this sad incident” but, he continued “the sudden loss of another bulk carrier in this region underlines the importance for the relevant authorities to quickly conduct their accident investigations so that the dry bulk sector can learn and apply any safety-related lessons from this tragedy, and help in future prevent this unnecessary loss of life”.

Intercargo continues to work through IMO to protect the safety of seafarers and their ships and additionally works with P&I, IUMI and other Round Table industry associations to help strengthen and clarify the requirements of the IMSBC Code.

The next amendment to the IMSBC Code will be formally approved by MSC 92 in May 2013, becoming mandatory from 1 January 2015. The inclusion of several changes to the Code requested or supported by Intercargo are included, and revisions concerning the control of moisture content for ‘Group A’ cargoes are particularly welcomed.

Ends.

Notes to Editors

1. Intercargo represents over 160 bulk carrier owners/operators (vessels engaged in the transport of dry bulk commodities such as coal, grain and iron ore) and associates. With Non-Governmental Organisation status at the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Intercargo’s objective is the creation of a “safe, efficient and environmentally friendly” dry cargo sector.
2. Intercargo, founded in 1980, works within the Round Table of international maritime associations comprising of BIMCO, the International Chamber of Shipping, Intercargo and Intertanko.

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