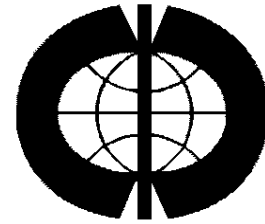


INTERCARGO

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DRY CARGO SHIPOWNERS

Ninth Floor,
St Clare House,
30/33 Minories,
London EC3N 1DD

Tel: 020 7977 7035
Fax: 020 7977 7011



Email: info@intercargo.org

Website: <http://www.intercargo.org>

News Release 03/12

Intercargo Publishes Report Benchmarking Bulk Carriers 2011-12

On 26 July 2012, the International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (Intercargo) launched the latest edition of their annual publication, *Benchmarking Bulk Carriers 2011-12*.

The sixth edition contains a wealth of statistical information relating to the world bulk carrier fleet, including Port State Control deficiencies and detentions, plus an informative narrative and analysis of Negative Performance Indicators such as collisions, groundings and casualties during 2011.

“Our report again highlights the importance of a consistent approach to PSC inspections” said Rob Lomas, Intercargo Secretary General. He continued, “PSC is generally an effective mechanism in promoting quality, and responsible, quality-orientated owners should not fear the consequences of targeting matrixes in the main MoUs. To make informed choices, charterers and MoUs should be asking why there are some disparities in the data between the MoUs. Intercargo will be engaging in dialogue with the sector and the MoUs to ask the appropriate questions via its soon-to-be published “Regional Round-up” publications that will analyse PSC detention and deficiency data on a port-by-port basis. These publications will herald the call for renewed efforts to harmonise and standardise PSC inspection regimes throughout the world.”

Key findings in this year’s report are:

- Intercargo entered ships continue to outperform industry averages.
- The average age of the global bulk carrier fleet dropped to 10.4 years.
- ‘Cargo’ related casualties continue to cause great concern to our industry – one incident alone in 2011 claimed 22 seafarers’ lives.
- Port State Control: The overall total number of bulk carriers detained continues to fall.
- Ports analysed still show significant variations in PSC deficiency patterns.

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.**
- 3. Over 1,300 copies of the Report have been distributed to bulk carrier owners and operators, plus other industry stakeholders in order to help raise the awareness of safety issues affecting the dry-bulk sector.**
- 4. Copies of the report are available to purchase, and are priced at £100 (Pounds Sterling) each. To order, please email info@intercargo.org or write to the address shown above. Credit card orders should be addressed to Witherbys Seamanship via their website at www.witherbyseamanship.com.**
- 5. Updates to this report will be posted on the Intercargo website.**

Further information:

Intercargo Manager and Press Contact – David Jones

david.jones@intercargo.org / T: +44 207 977 7035