



Edition 4th November 2016

LOSS PREVENTION NEWS

Lithium-ion Batteries (North of England)

Lithium-ion batteries as cargo must be carried in strict accordance with the IMDG code. The dangerous goods can be either the batteries only (UN 3480) or the batteries when in equipment or packed with equipment (UN3481). Five important things you need to know about the carriage of lithium-ion batteries:

[Read more](#)

USCG Safety Alert - Samsung Galaxy Note 7 Smartphone (Swedish Club)

The Coast Guard strongly recommends immediately powering down and ending all use of Samsung Galaxy Note 7 phones. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ordered banning the recalled devices from airplanes starting on October 15, 2016. Maritime operators should review potential fire hazards related to the recall, especially for operations that include checked baggage or unattended vehicles as on ferries.

[Read more](#)

Heat damage in soya bean cargoes - the importance of inspections (Gard)

An increasing number of soya bean cargoes are reportedly loaded in a "bin-burned" condition. Important visible signs that fall under the phrase "apparent condition" can reveal at an early stage soya bean parcels that can be liable to self-heat.

[Read more](#)

Polymeric beads : danger of combustion (Britannia)

A recent incident of a fire on board a container ship was believed to have started when a container packed with polystyrene beads exploded.

[Read more](#)

Non-return valves in bilges (Skuld)

Water damage to cargo due to malfunctioning non-return valves of vessel bilge systems happens on a regular basis. In a recent case on a vessel covered by Skuld, the total cargo of 2,600 MT of fertilizer in one of the holds was completely wetted by sea water due to a combination of human error and technical problems with a non-return valve.

[Read more](#)



Precautions while loading oil on board (Shipowners)

The loading of oil on board vessels, whether cargo or bunkers, is a critical operation. Due care must be taken to mitigate against the risk of pollution. The Club has recently been notified of several incidents whereby standard procedures were not adhered to whilst loading, causing cargo tanks to overflow and leading to pollution.

[Read more](#)

New version of solid bulk cargoes guide available now (UK Club)

Lloyd's Register, UK P&I Club, and Intercargo have released an update to the popular International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code pocket guide, designed for ships' officers and agents who arrange cargoes for loading.

[Read more](#)

LOI Beware! The dangers of releasing cargo against an LOI (Standard)

The club would advise members to proceed with real caution when entering into LOIs. We have seen an increase in LOI obligations being disregarded by charterers without assets. A water-tight LOI wording is irrelevant if the signatory is of dubious financial means. We understand that the decision to accept such indemnities is a commercial decision for members. The Club cannot provide cover in the event that an LOI is not honoured or be of any value should the party giving it become insolvent or cease trading. This is why it is essential that the party giving the LOI is in good financial standing and ideally the LOI would be guaranteed by a first class bank.

[Read more](#)

USCG Issue Steering Gears Safety Alert (Steamship)

The US Coast Guard marine inspectors have experienced two different circumstances involving the alarm and control system of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries steering gears onboard relatively new vessels recently in the Pacific North West.

[Read more](#)

Interference with maritime radio reception by on board equipment (Shipowners)

The Club would like to make Members aware of several cases where interference from on board lighting has blocked reception of weaker radio signals, particularly deck / navigation lighting installations using compact fluorescent (affecting lower frequencies such as NAVTEX, MF and possibly HF) or LED lamps (affecting higher frequencies such as VHF including AIS). As yet, no effect on satellite communications has been noted from such installations.

[Read more](#)

Risk Focus: Paint (UK Club)

Paint is important in asset protection. It can have a profound effect on both running costs and revenue generation. The primary role of a coating is to protect the asset from the environment it has to work in, in order to provide as long a service life as possible. Not only does corrosion affect service life, it has a real and detrimental effect on costs to the asset owner in terms of service time, down time, performance levels and ultimately, asset value.

[Read more](#)

Cyber security awareness in the maritime industry (Gard)

There is no single solution to managing cyber risks. It is a collaboration involving people, processes and IT systems. Establishing awareness in all levels of an organisation is the important first step when implementing cyber security management.

[Read more](#)

How to Make Chief Mates into Master (North of England)

'Once a shipowner has selected one or more chief officers for promotion to captain, a comprehensive programme of training and coaching should be put in place to ensure they are fully prepared to assume command. In addition to achieving the necessary STCW certification, the programme should include learning about mentoring, pastoral care and their over-riding safety duties under SOLAS.'

[Read more](#)



MARKET NEWS

The Hanjin Shipping rehabilitation – an overview (Gard)

Rehabilitation proceedings were commenced in Seoul Central District Court to allow Hanjin to restructure its debt in order to save the business as a going concern.

[Read more](#)

Dryad Maritime publishes maritime crime figures for the third quarter of 2016 (Standard)

[Read more](#)

Outcome of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) 70th session (Standard)

[Read more](#)

LEGAL NEWS

STCW – Regulatory changes to seafarers' certification (Shipowners)

The Club would like to draw to our Members' attention the impending 2010 Manila amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW). This change affects all vessels required to comply with the STCW convention.

[Read more](#)

Ratification of Maritime Conventions as of 1st November 2016 (Japan Club)

The latest changes are as follows;

[Read more](#)

Legal Briefing- Antarctic treaty (UK Club)

The latest briefing from the legal team covers the Antarctic Treaty and its Environment Protocol. Annex VI of the Environment Protocol, which deals with liabilities arising from environmental emergencies, has not yet come into force, but shipowners trading to the Antarctic should be aware of their potential liabilities under this instrument.

[Read more](#)

Global Sulphur Cap Decision (North of England)

IMO announced at MEPC 70 on 27 October 2016 that the 0.5% global fuel sulphur cap will take effect in 2020 and will not be deferred till 2025.

[Read more](#)

'The Aqasia' – The package limitation in The Hague Rules not to apply to bulk cargoes (Standard)

This decision is of great significance for bulk cargo claims where the Hague Rules apply. This case makes clear that there would be no limit of liability for loss of or damage to the goods under the package limitation provided for in Article IV Rule 5.

[Read more](#)

Definition of 'ship' under Article I (1) of the 1992 Civil Liability Convention (CLC) – follow up (Standard)

In our web alert dated 25 September 2015, we reported about the guidance prepared by the IPOC Funds' secretariat to ascertain whether a vessel falls within or outside the definition of 'ship' under Article I (1) of the 1992 Civil Liability Convention (CLC). This guidance has been approved (with minor editorial correction) by the 1992 Fund governing bodies in April 2016 and is now available to download at the IPOC Funds website.

[Read more](#)



Cape Bari - Carefully Reviewing Port Agreements and Terminal 'Conditions of Use' (Standard)

This decision confirms that a party can contract out of or waive its right to limit liability under the 1976 Convention. The wording of the contract, though, has to be clear and unequivocal of the parties' intention to exclude this right. The *Cape Bari* underlines the importance of careful contract review when entering into Port Agreements and Terminal 'Conditions of Use' so that the owners' right to limit liability is not unintentionally lost.

[Read more](#)

R.I.P "The Astra" (Steamship)

Payment of time charter hire is not a condition but Owners may still be entitled to damages... "*The Astra*" reconsidered.

[Read more](#)

SANCTION NEWS

OFAC Issues Updated JCPOA FAQ October 2016 (Steamship)

On 7th October 2016 the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") updated its Frequently Asked Questions Relating to the Lifting of Certain US Sanctions Under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) on Implementation Day (the "FAQs"), providing additional guidance on the post-JCPOA Iranian sanctions position.

[Read more](#)

PIRACY NEWS

ReCAAP ISC Quarterly Report reveals a 65% decrease in piracy in Asia (Standard)

Between January and September 2016, a total of 59 incidents involving armed robbery or acts of piracy were reported compared to 169 incidents during the same period in 2015. This equates to a 65% decrease.

[Read more](#)

IMB publishes third quarter report on piracy and armed robbery for 2016 (Standard)

The IMB has published its report on piracy and armed robbery for the third quarter of 2016, covering the period from 1 January to 30 September 2016. With just 42 attacks worldwide this quarter, it is reported that piracy and armed robbery at sea has fallen to its lowest levels since 1996.

[Read more](#)

REGIONAL NEWS

Argentina - New under keel clearance requirements for Parana River and River Plate (Standard)

New under keel clearance rules for the River Parana and River Plate, are due to come into force 60 calendar days from 26 September 2016, which was the ratification date of the new regulations issued by the Argentinian authorities.

[Read more](#)

Asia - Considerable Coal Imports Expected For Emerging Asian Markets (Standard)

The emerging Asian markets of Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam have increased their coal imports by 33% since this time last year and Klaveness Research expect the imports to 'grow considerably'.

[Read more](#)

Australia - Visa required for foreign nationals working in offshore oil and gas industry (Standard)

The High Court of Australia unanimously declared on 31 August 2016 [1] that the federal government's decision to exempt foreign workers on vessels in the offshore oil and gas industry from visa requirements was invalid. This now has the effect of enforcing visa requirements on foreign workers who are employed on offshore vessels in Australia's oil and gas industry. Australian citizens or permanent residents are not affected by this ruling.

[Read more](#)



Bangladesh - *Update* Chittagong Outer Anchorage (North of England)

Local marine consultants MARINECARE Consultants Bangladesh Ltd have kindly provided further information relating to the recent collisions at Chittagong Outer Anchorage.

They report their involvement in a number of investigations into collisions resulting from vessels dragging their anchor. They highlight the importance of adhering to the draft restrictions at the anchorage and have forwarded a Chittagong Port Authority circular of June 2016 which recommends 2.0m UKC on arrival.

[Read more](#)

Brazil - Mosquito-borne diseases & shipboard sanitary inspections in Brazil (Standard)

Following the recent attention relating to the mosquito-borne diseases in Brazil and further to the club's previous [Web Alert](#) on the problems with ship sanitation certificates (SSCC/SSCEC) in Brazil, the club's local correspondent (Representacoes Proinde Ltda.) has issued practical guidance to assist ships calling Brazilian ports.

[Read more](#)

Cuba - Cuba Sanctions – Latest Developments (West of England)

The United States has long maintained sanctions against Cuba and which included a ban on vessels calling in US waters for 180 days after having traded to Cuba. It was recently announced that this prohibition has been amended so that a wider range of non-US vessels may now call at Cuba and then proceed directly to the US.

[Read more](#)

Lebanon - Discharging of damaged food cargo in Lebanon (Standard)

Members trading to Lebanon should be aware that the Lebanese Public Health Ministry has recently imposed harsh regulations against all food sectors including cargo entering the country.

[Read more](#)

Philippines - Warning of wet nickel ore cargo in bulk from Surigao (West of England)

Members are advised to take caution when loading nickel ore in the Philippine area due to bad weather in the area of Surigao, Mindanao.

[Read more](#)

Singapore - new bunkering procedures (Gard)

Ships taking deliveries of marine fuel oil in Singapore can from 1 January 2017 rely on quantity figures recorded by the bunker barge's mass flow metering system, reducing the possibility of quantity disputes.

[Read more](#)

South Africa - Urgent stowaway advice (Skuld)

Despite our previous loss prevention advice, stowaways continue to board vessels in South African ports far too frequently. These attacks have increased significantly over the last two months. The South African authorities have made it abundantly clear they will not change their attitude and therefore the ship must combat unlawful individuals boarding the ship.

[Read more](#)

Venezuela - Robbery of Anchored Vessels off Puerto la Cruz – Update (West of England)

Further to the Club's news article of 6 July 2011, Club Correspondent Venepandi, Caracas, have advised of a recent noticeable increase in the number of anchored vessels being subject to acts of robbery within the designated anchorage areas off Puerto La Cruz, Port of Jose and Guanta Bay.

[Read more](#)