



SAFETY RECOMMENDATION No: 10/2013

Text of Safety Recommendation:

Re-evaluation of the risk assessment procedure concerning the mooring operation of the ship, especially under bad weather conditions, aiming in finding out any unsafe factors and points of high risk in order to take necessary measures.

No of Safety Investigation Report:	02/2013: Injury of seaman on board Ro-Pax "NISOS KEFALONIA". <i>(See the full Report here.)</i>
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Safety Recommendation addressed to:	Ship Management Company ("KEFALONIAN LINES SHIPPING COMPANY")
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Date of publication:	09/05/2014
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Comments-Remarks:

INFORMATION OF ACCIDENT

Type of vessel: Ro-Pax closed type

Year built: 1975

Injury of seaman on board Ro-Pax

Course of events

The Ro-Pax arrived at the port of Argostoli and mooring since her daily schedule was completed. During the mooring process in the area of the stern, there were three seamen, supervised by the Chief Officer of the ship. After unloading passengers and vehicles and due to adverse weather conditions prevailing, the crew continued with the securing of the ship with ropes mainly from the bow ("springs"). One of the seamen on duty at the stern of the

ship was asked to move the rope of suspension of a rubber pad («fender») which protects the left aft girde of the ship against contact with the pier. In his effort, the seaman was injured on his left thumb, and was directly transferred to the local hospital where he received medical treatment and hospitalization.



Picture 1: The initial (position 1) and final position (position 2) of the suspension of the rubber pad.

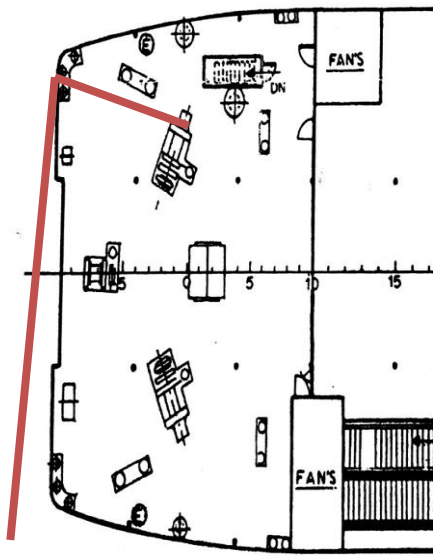
Extent of damage

The injury of the seaman.

Probable cause

Before the mooring of ship, risk assessment process according to Safety Management Code (ISM Code - Chapter IX SOLAS 74) was not carried out, in order to detect any risk factors under the prevailing adverse weather conditions and develop any appropriate measures for safe mooring of the ship as well as any additional measures to protect personnel. It is noted that the powerful lateral winds with blasts of very powerful force created dynamically alterable tensions to the mooring ropes, resulting in the light traverse locomotion of the ship and causing small locomotion of ropes in the fairlead rollers from which they passed.

In addition, the morphology of the port did not ensure sufficient protection for moored ships when adverse weather conditions prevailed due to the large surface of exposure of the vessels to the strong winds from south directions, which created large torques. Also, the depth of the port is not sufficient to ensure the approach of ships and the laying of anchors, so the securing of the ship was achieved with use of additional ropes from the bow (springs).



Picture 2: Layout scheme of the aft mooring deck with the additional rope that was placed to hold the stern against the influence of the southern wind



Picture 3: View of the left aft mooring deck space. Marked (circled in red color) the fairlead rollers through which the stern ropes passed which was the point where the seaman got injured.

In the examined marine accident, the aforementioned factors were not adequately evaluated; as a result the action of the seaman to get his hand between the rope and the roller in order to hold the suspension line of rubber pad, led to his injury.

Lessons to be learned

Re-evaluation of the risk assessment procedure concerning the mooring operation of the ship, from the management companies of the ships, especially under bad weather conditions, aiming in finding out any unsafe factors and points of high risk in order to take necessary measures.