



INTERIM REPORT

Art. 16.2 Law 4033/2011 (art. 14.2 Directive 2009/18/EC)

MARINE ACCIDENT SAFETY INVESTIGATION

Fire on board "OLYMPIC CHAMPION" IMO No. 9216028

Very serious marine casualty

SEPTEMBER 2020

Marine casualty Safety Investigation Law 4033/2011 as amended and applies

(summary extract of art. 1.b, 4.1.a
& 4.1.b)

The conduct of Safety Investigations into marine casualties or incidents is independent from criminal, discipline, administrative or civil proceedings whose purpose is to apportion blame or determine liability. The sole objective of the conduct of a safety investigation is to ascertain the circumstances that caused the marine accident or incident through analysis, to draw useful conclusions and lessons learned that may lead, if necessary, to safety recommendations or proposals addressed to parties or stakeholders involved in order to take remedial actions, aiming to prevent or avoid future marine accidents.

Points of Interest

- This Interim Report has been prepared by virtue of art. 16.2 Law 4033/2011, as applies (art. 14.2 Directive 2009/18/EC) as the full investigation report will not be published within 12 months of the marine accident date.
- The Interim Report has been published for the sole purposes of the safety investigation process with no litigation in mind and should be inadmissible to any judicial or other proceedings (administrative, disciplinary, criminal or civil) whose purpose is to attribute or apportion blame or liability.
- The Interim Report only aims to present a concise summary of the events occurred on the 28th of September 2019 that led to a serious marine casualty
- The Interim Report does not constitute legal advice in any way and should not be construed as such.

HBMCI conducts the safety investigation of issued marine casualty. The content of this Interim Report is based on current available information and data collected and analyzed during the safety investigation process into captioned marine casualty. The completion of the procedure as defined in relevant legislation may reveal or identify new information, data or evidence and consequently cause changes or amendments in data provided by this Interim Report.

«RoPax Olympic Champion»

«Olympic Champion», is a 32694 gross tonnage RO-RO Passenger vessel under Greek Flag. She was built in 2000 by Fosen Shipyards. During the time of the marine casualty the vessel was trading in the Mediterranean region conducting round voyages between Italy and Greece and more specifically the itinerary between the ports of Patras - Igoumenitsa - Kerkyra (Greece) and Venice (Italy).

Marine Accident Synopsis

On September 28th, 2019, Olympic Champion, at approximately 07:28, departed from the berthing dock of the mainland port of Igoumenitsa, carrying 538 passengers of various nationalities, 141 cars, 05 mini buses, 18 campers, 94 trucks, 35 motorcycles and 03 buses and was bound for Venice/Italy with an intermediate call at the port of Kerkyra Island, Greece.

While she was navigating the Igoumenitsa Channel about 0.2 n.m from the berthing dock, a fire broke out at the main garage compartment at approximately 07:40 LT.

The Master activated the permanent fire extinguishing system (DRENCHER), maneuvered back to the dock and ordered the crew to prepare the passenger's evacuation procedures and berthed.

Olympic Champion was berthed at approximately 08:18 LT and the passengers were directed ashore through the disembarkation stern ramp. Fire Brigade units and personnel, as well as one fire fighting boat, joined the fire extinguishing operation.

Igoumenitsa Coast Guard Authority and Port Authority launched the emergency contingency plan for preventing possible pollution, by deploying (02) two antipollution floating booms around the vessel.

At approximately 09:00 LT, passenger's emergency evacuation was safely completed under the coordination of Olympic Champion crew along with the assistance of the local Hellenic Coast Guard Authority Officers and Fire Department personnel.

Due to the immediate emergency containment actions; continuous operation of the Drencher system; the efficient cooling of the adjacent areas and the Fire Brigade Unit operational involvement, the fire was contained and did not spread to other decks of the vessel.

Two passengers (02) of German nationality suffered of minor burns on their feet and were transferred to the local hospital.

Origin of the fire

An inspection was carried out at the fore starboard area of the main garage, deck No. 4, where the fire was initially spotted and in particular on the electrical installation and equipment of the vessel that was supplying the refrigerated trucks with electrical power (electrical panels, sockets, electrical fuses), as well as in specific refrigerated trucks located at that area. According to data collected so far, the investigation analyses is focusing on a possible short-circuit that occurred on the front left part of a tractor, located at the fire breakout area.

Due to the short-circuit and the generated spark, the fire broke out and was rapidly expanded to the other parts of the mentioned tractor and subsequently to the near by parked refrigerator trucks and general cargo tracks, stowed in the main garage, namely due to the fact that the cargo (plastic goods, etc.) loaded was fueling the fire.

Investigation

An analysis of the gathered evidence is being carried out, in order to determine the conditions and the contributing factors that led to the examined serious marine casualty. Such factors may include a possible material failure in electrical installation of the tractor that caused a short-circuit.

Final safety Investigation Report

A draft safety Investigation report is under preparation and is expected to be finalized shortly and circulated to involved and interested parties for consultation.



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Grigoriou Lambraki Street 150
P.c 185 18
Piraeus

Tel: 213 1371968
213 1371409
210 1371267
Fax: 213 1371269
Email: hbmci@yna.gov.gr
Website: www.hbmci.gov.gr

FACTUAL INFORMATION

SHIPS PARTICULARS

Name	OLYMPIC CHAMPION
Flag	GREEK
Port and number of Registry	CHANIA 29
Ship's type	ROPAX
IMO	9216028
Call sign	SYWD
LOA	204 m
Breadth	25,80 m
Year of built	2000
Shipyard	Fosen Shipyards
Construction	Steel
Gross Tonnage	32694 Tons
Net Tonnage	19803
Engine / Power	4XWARTSILA 12V-46C/4X12600 KW
Classification Society	RINA
Minimum Safe Manning	27

Voyage Particulars

Last port of call	Igoumenitsa
Trading Area	International Voyages
Cargo on board	94 trucks, 141 cars, 18 camper, 35 motorcycles, and 03 buses
Crew on board	75

Marine Casualty Information

Date & time	28/09/2019 at 07:40 LT
Type of marine casualty	serious marine casualty
Weather & environmental conditions	GOOD VISIBILITY, NNW WIND DIRECTION 3-4 bf ,DAY TIME
Location of casualty	Near the dock of Igoumenitsa port, NW Greece
Damages to ship	Deformations of the steel structure at the fore starboard section of Deck No 6
Fatalities / injuries / pollution	none/two (02) passengers/none



Figure 1: ROPAX "Olympic Champion"

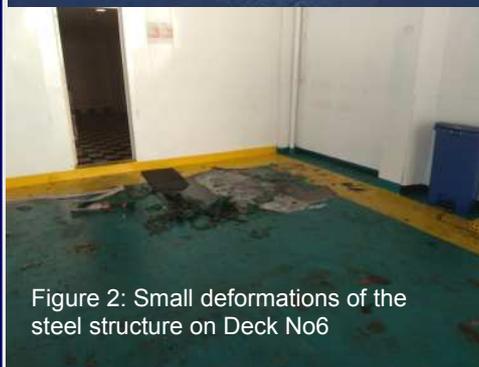


Figure 2: Small deformations of the steel structure on Deck No6

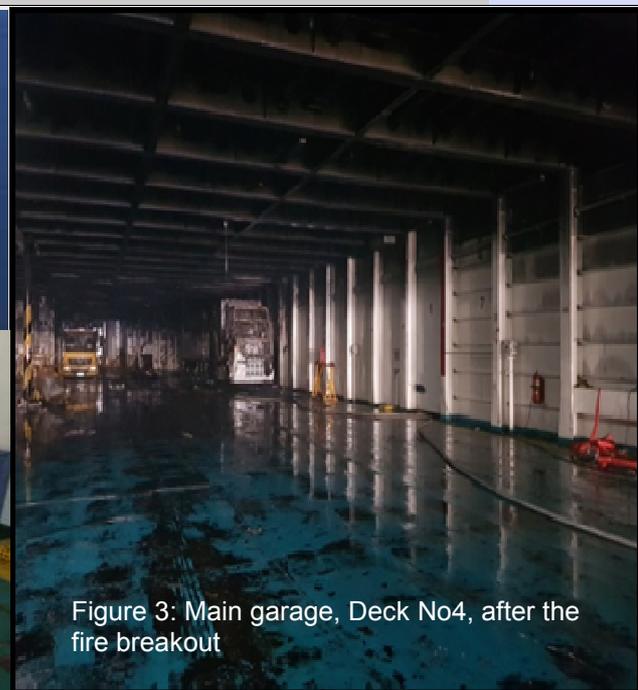


Figure 3: Main garage, Deck No4, after the fire breakout