From: XXXX

Sent: 16 November 2010 17:37

To: MAIB

Subject: Liquefied Natural Gas Tankers

Dear all,

I am interested in obtaining any information on Near misses and Incidents in relation to LNG tankers.

In my role as XXXX LNG cargo operator I am keen to understand more around any potential and existing problems that the industry has and filter this through the Ops team.

It would appear that there is not much in the way of incidents present or historical that I can look back at as a lessons learned task

Can you possibly help me un earth one or two please..

Kind regards

XXXX

XXXX

XXXX

XXXX XXXX XXXX

XXXX

Tel: XXXX Mobile: XXXX

XXXX, XXXXX with the XXXX XXXXX, XXXX XXXXX and XXXX XXXXX

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Dear XXXX

F0007105 – Incident data for incidents involving LNG tankers

I am writing to confirm that the Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) of the Department for Transport has now completed its search for information on incidents involving LNG tankers which you requested on 16 November 2010.

We have searched for all cases where either MAIB or IHS Fairplay records show that a vessel is (or has been) and LNG tanker. We identified one published investigation report:

http://www.maib.gov.uk/publications/investigation_reports/2007/hilli.cfm

Edited details of incidents that were not investigated are attached.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The Department may, therefore, be simultaneously releasing to the public the information you requested, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

If you are unhappy with the way the MAIB has handled your request or with the decisions made in relation to your request you may complain within two calendar months of the date of this mail by replying to me at the above address. Please see attached details of the Department for Transport's complaints procedure and your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely XXXX Freedom of Information Officer Marine Accident Investigation Branch Mountbatten House Grosvenor Square Southampton SO15 2JU Tel +44 (0)23 XXXXX Fax+44 (0)23 XXXXX maib@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Case Number 0040/1994 08/01/1994 Collision Regulation Accident Status Closed Location UK 4956.0 N Coastal waters 459.0 W Natural Light Darkness Sea State Calm <2 ft Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range 0-3 Visibility Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 0 Material Damage Liquid gas carrier Flag **Bermuda 78915.00** gt 0.01 Reg. L **275.01** LOA Deck Collision **Import Default Import Default Import Default Import Default Human factor** People Fatigue and vigilance System - External bodies liaison Non compliance

Fish catching/processing

Netter

Flag

U.K.

Gill netter

19.22 gt

11.53

Reg. L 12.38 LOA

Deck

Collision
Import Default
Import Default
Import Default

Import Default

COLLISION BETWEEN GAS CARRIER AND FISHING VESSEL IN FALMOUTH APPROACHES. DARK WITH EXCELLENT VISIBILITY. IMMEDIATE CAUSE WAS THAT NEITHER VESSEL WAS MAINTAINING A PROPER LOOKOUT. FISHING VESSEL WAS SHOOTING NETS AND FAILED TO PROPERLY DETERMINE IF A RISK OF COLLISION EXISTED. BY THE TIME THE OTHER VESSEL APPRECIATED THE RISK, VESSELS WERE SO CLOSE THAT AVOIDING ACTION FAILED TO PREVENT A COLLISION. NO COMMUNICATION BETWEEN VESSELS IMMEDIATELY AFTER COLLISION AND GAS CARRIER DID NOT HEAVE TO.

Data in MAIB historic format:

Accident Factor Information:

Record 1 How/Why: Record 2 Factor:

How/M/by

How/Why: Record 3

Factor: Human Factor

Human Factor: External Bodies Liaison

How/Why: Non-compliance

Record 4

Factor: Human Factor Human Factor: Individual

How/Why: Fatigue and Vigilance

Case Number 0224/2008 27/02/2008 Accident To Person

Regulation Accident to Person Status Closed

Location Coastal waters English
Natural Light Light Sea State

Visibility Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 1
Liquid gas carrier Flag Al

Flag **Algeria 81265.00** gt

When: **Unknown** 0.01 Reg. L 274.40 LOA

Safety

General shipboard activities

General - Unsafe practices

Location: Not known

Unknown

Injured Details

Age 35-39
Gender Male
Region Africa
On/Off Duty? Unknown

Injury Cuts/wound/lacerations

Rank Chief engineer

Chief Officer suffered wound to leg. He was checked over at the local hospital and returned on board.

Case Number 0235/2004 13/02/2004 Accident To Person

Regulation Accident to Person Status Closed

Location High seas Non UK 2346.0 N 7210.0 W

Natural Light Light Sea State

Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrier

Dead 0 Injured 1

Liquid gas carrier

Flag U.K.

96235.00 gt

When: **On passage 0.01** Reg. L **293.00** LOA

Safety

General shipboard activities
Safe ship environment

Location: Other external deck

Unfenced opening Human factor People

Perception abilities

Injured Details

Age 30-34
Gender Male
On/Off Duty? On duty

Injury Strains - other strains/sprains/torn muscles/ligaments

Rank Officer

Crew member repairing hydraulic valve on deck. Crew member slipped through hole in deck surrounding valve suffering a twisted ankle. Crew member repatriated. Action taken: wooden cover fabricated to place around valve when maintenance work carried out.

0357/2007 10/03/2007 **Accident To Person** Case Number

Status Closed Regulation **Accident to Person**

Location High seas Non UK 3522.0 N 1829.0 E

Natural Light **Darkness** Sea State **Moderate**

Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range 7-9

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 1 Injured 0 No Damage

Flag U.K.

Liquid gas carrier **LNG**

96235.00 gt

When: On passage 0.01 Reg. L **293.76** LOA

Safety

General shipboard activities

Safe ship environment Location: Cargo or other tank space

Unfenced opening **Human factor**

System - Crew Factors

Procedures inadequate

Technical factor

Design & construction Construction defect

Injured Details

Age 55-59 Gender Male

Region **Eastern Europe**

Hours Worked 8.00 Hours Worked since off Duty for 4 Hours 8.00

On/Off Duty? On duty

Death - confirmed Injury

Rank Other crew

Ballast tank maintenance was being undertaken whilst the vessel was at sea on passage. A specialist company had been awarded the contract to provided men and equipment to grit blast and paint all double bottoms.

The ships crew were tasked to provide assistance where needed and to check the ballast tank atmosphere was safe for entry. The contractors supplied manpower and scaffolding to reach the upper hopper sides. The scaffolding was DNV approved and the foreman was familiar in its safe assembly. However on the construction of the scaffold a continuous shaft from the top platform to the tank top was left. This is not recommended if avoidable, if it is constructed this way the edges of the shaft have to be fitted with safety rails to prevent persons falling. The safety rails were not fitted. The accident occurred when there was a change of blaster operator, the out going blaster had un hooked his safety harness whilst taking off the protective suit. As he moved away from the work area he slipped and fell down the shaft. He was rescued and airlifted to hospital where he passed away 6 days later.

Case Number 0383/2006 14/03/2006 Hazardous Incident

Regulation Hazardous Incident Status Closed

Location Port/harbour area Non UK 3205.0 N 8106.0 W

Natural Light Light Sea State Sheltered Waters

Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range 0-3

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 0 No Damage

Flag U.K.

95879.00 gt

When: Loading/discharging cargo 0.01 Reg. L 287.51 LOA

Deck

Liquid gas carrier

Hazardous Incident

Other

Location: Other external deck

Safety

General management/procedures

Management failure

Location: Other external deck

Other

Technical factor
External Causes
Other Vessel

A UK registered liquid gas carrier was alongside an American port discharging her cargo. The vessel was tied up using 3 head lines, 3 breast lines and 2 springs forward and 3 stern lines, 3 breast lines and 2 springs aft. The ropes were in good order. The winch brakes had been set to render at 60 tonnes.

At 0418 on 14 March the vessel was discharging gas; there were 6 crew on deck, with the 2 Officer in charge. Three engineers were also on the engine room watch. A state pilot was on the bridge and 2 tractor tugs were on standby alongside.

At 0418 an inbound US flagged tanker, reportedly at 24 feet draft and in ballast passed astern in excess of 14 knots. The speed was confirmed by AIS. The close proximity caused the discharging vessel to vibrate. Conscious of the risk the tugs started their engines and were instructed to push the vessel alongside. The movement of water nevertheless caused the vessel to surge along the jetty initiating the Emergency Shut Down which tripped the cargo pumps and closed the Emergency Shut down (ESD) valves on the ship and ashore. At the same time both forward spring lines parted at their tails. Shortly afterwards the ESD 2 was initiated. All Powered Emergency Release Couplings (PERCs) released the hard arms from the ship.

Immediately afterwards the 2 forward breast lines parted as the tugs then pushed the vessel alongside. The accident resulted in both gangways being destroyed but there was no other damage and no injuries. Cargo discharge commenced some 12 hours later.

The USCG issued a Marine Safety Bulletin setting out the Policy for LNG Tankship Operations although a maximum passing speed was not specified. As of the 19 April 2006 the USCG were continuing their investigations focusing on the actions of the passing vessel.

Case Number 0426/2010 02/04/2010 Contact

Regulation Hazardous Incident Status Closed

Location Port/harbour area English 5142.0 N 510.0 W

Milford Haven

Natural Light Light Sea State Sheltered Waters

Visibility Unknown Wind force Range 4-6

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 0 Minor Damage

Liquid gas carrier Flag Norway

LNG 121597.00 gt

When: **Unknown 0.01** Reg. L **277.09** LOA

Deck

Contact

General management/procedures

Safety

General shipboard activities

Means of Access (to and from ship)

Pilot Access other

Other commercial Dead 0 Injured 0 Minor Damage

Port service Flag U.K.

Pilot boat 0.01 gt

When: **Unknown** 0.01 Reg. L 0.01 LOA

The forward handrail of a pilot boat was damaged due to contact with a vessel beneath its gangway, whilst delivering the pilots on board.

Case Number 0789/2006 17/05/2006 Accident To Person

Regulation Accident to Person Status Closed

Location High seas Non UK 1920.0 N 6850.0 W

Natural Light Sea State

Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 1
Liquid gas carrier Flag U.K.

96235.00 gt

When: **Unknown** 0.01 Reg. L 293.00 LOA

Safety

General shipboard activities

General - Unsafe practices

Location: Complete vessel

Involving negligence/carelessness

Injured Details

Age 35-39
Gender Male
Hours Worked 4.00
On/Off Duty? On duty
Injury Bruising

Rank Officer - Engineering

3rd engineer officer injured eye when he was handling an empty fire hose in the engine room. The fire hose became jammed and it suddenly became free while he pulled it and it (nozzle?) hit him in the left eye.

Case Number 0958/2003 23/06/2003 Machinery Failure

Regulation Accident Status Closed

Location River/canal Non UK

Natural Light Light Sea State Calm <2 ft

Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 0 Minor Damage

Flag **U.K.**

96235.00 gt

When: **At anchor 0.01** Reg. L **293.00** LOA

Machinery

Liquid gas carrier

Fire and explosion Main machinery

Location: Engine room

Main machinery

Boilers Main

Location: Engine room

Oil burner system fault Technical factor

> Design & construction System defect

Operator error

LNG tanker waiting at anchorage prior to berthing. Decision taken to carry out a controlled shutdown of starboard boiler in order to partly change the water due to high dissolved solids. Once part replacement of water carried out, boiler fired on fuel oil and coupled to port boiler. During changeover to dual fuel, boiler had an intermittent flame failure and manual relighting was carried out without any air purging between attempts. Furnace explosion occurred causing boiler damage but no injuries. During enquiries it became apparent that there had been another small unconnected boiler explosion in April of the same year - this explosion was caused by a weld on the burner being porous and allowing LNG vapour to escape from the pipe to the windbox.

Case Number 1045/2009 27/07/2009 Hazardous Incident

Regulation Hazardous Incident Status Closed

Location Port/harbour area Welsh 5142.0 N 510.0 W

Milford Haven

Natural Light Light Sea State Sheltered Waters

Visibility Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrierDead 0 Injured0 No DamageLiquid gas carrierFlagMarshall Islands

168189.00 gt

When: Involved in towing operations

Other commercial

Output

Dead 0 Injured

Minor Damage

Flag **U.K.**

Tug 686.00 gt

When: **Involved in towing operations** 0.01 Reg. L 34.00 LOA

Safety

Port service

LNG

General shipboard activities

Involving Towing Operation
Location: External working deck/shelter

Line jamming, jumping, slipping or coming off sheave, fairlead

or bitts

Tug was making fast a towline to a ship. As she dropped back on the line, the line snagged the vessel's railings, causing them damage.

1060/2009 27/07/2009 **Hazardous Incident Case Number**

Hazardous Incident Status Closed Regulation

Location Port/harbour area Welsh 5142.0 N 510.0 W

Milford Haven

Natural Light **Light** Sea State **Sheltered Waters**

Visibility Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrier Dead **0** Injured 0 No Damage Liquid gas carrier Marshall Islands Flag **LNG**

168189.00 gt

When: Alongside or moored 0.01 Reg. L **345.00** LOA

Safety

General shipboard activities

Means of Access (to and from ship) Location: External stairway/ladder/gangway

Pilot Access other Human factor People

> Language problem **System - Crew Factors**

Lack of communication or co-ordination

As a pilot boat approached a ship, the coxswain had difficulty in making himself understood that the clearance height of the pilot ladder was too low. At this point the ladder became caught in the pilot boat's rails and the boat crushed the spreader. It was also noted that the tripping line was attached to the bottom rung of the ladder. The port authority reminded the vessel that tripping lines are not to be used. The coxswain was reminded to stand off until the ladder had been rigged to the required height, and if there is a language problem, it should be relayed to the ship's master for resolution.

Case Number 1320/2006 19/08/2006 Accident To Person

Regulation Hazardous Incident Status Closed

Location Port/harbour area Non UK 1011.0 N 6141.0 W

Natural Light Unknown Sea State Sheltered Waters

Unknown Wind force Range Other

Tanker/combination carrier

Dead 0 Injured 0

Liquid gas carrier

Flag U.K.

96235.00 gt

When: **Alongside or moored** 0.01 Reg. L 293.00 LOA

Safety

Visibility

General shipboard activities

General - Unsafe practices

Location: **Engine room**

Involving fatigue/tension
Human factor
People

Fatigue

Working environment Temperature

Technical factor Environment

Temperature

Injured Details

Age 30-34
Gender Male
Region Caribbean
Hours Worked 3.00

On/Off Duty? On duty
Injury Not repor

Injury Not reportable Rank Other non-crew

Contractor carrying out welding repairs inside main boiler casing. He and a colleague decided to take a break due to the high temperatures within the boiler. While leaving the boiler the contractor collapsed due to dehydration. Work postponed until the following day.

Case Number 1531/2003 14/10/2003 Contact

Regulation Status Closed Accident

Location Non-tidal waters Non UK 3006.0 N 9319.0 W

Natural Light **Light** Sea State Other Good (5 - 10) Visibility Wind force Range 0-3

Tanker/combination carrier Dead **0** Injured 0 No Damage

Flag U.K.

Liquid gas carrier **96235.00** gt LNG

When: Entering or leaving port 0.01 Reg. L **293.76** LOA

Deck

Grounding

General management/procedures

While turning in a river basin with 4 tugs assisting, a large LNG tanker grounded in mud for about 10 minutes. The area has been noted to be silting up and is to be dredged. No damage or pollution.

Case Number 1532/2009 02/11/2009 Collision

Regulation Accident Status Closed

Location Port/harbour area Welsh 5142.0 N 510.0 W

Milford Haven

Natural Light Darkness Sea State Rough Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range 0-3

Other commercial Dead 0 Injured 0 No Damage

Port service Flag U.K.

Pilot boat 0.01 gt

When: Other offshore operations 0.01 Reg. L 0.01 LOA

Deck

Bridge procedures Environmental

Location: Complete vessel

Conditions had greater effect than expected

Collision

Tanker/combination carrierDead 0 Injured0 Minor DamageLiquid gas carrierFlagMarshall IslandsLNG163922.00 gt

When: **Other offshore operations 0.01**Reg. L **345.20** LOA

While attempting to board a pilot onto a large LNG carrier, the pilot boat made heavy contact with the pilot ladder, damaging the bottom steps. The sea was very rough at the time.

Case Number 1583/2010 26/10/2010 Contact

Regulation Hazardous Incident Status Admin Enquiry

Location Port/harbour area UK 5142.0 N 510.0 W

Milford Haven

Natural Light Light Sea State Sheltered Waters

Visibility Mod. 2 - 5 nm (3) Wind force Range 4-6

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 0

Liquid gas carrier Flag Marshall Islands

LPG 3504.00 gt

When: Entering or leaving port 89.00 Reg. L 94.50 LOA

Deck

Bridge procedures

Communications/Orders

Location: Navigation/communication control space

Verbal order or instruction not understood/misinterpreted

Human factor People

Situational awareness or communication inadequate

System - Crew Factors

Lack of communication or co-ordination

Procedures inadequate

Contact

Bridge procedures

Location: Navigation/communication control space

An LNG carrier was coming alongside a jetty in a welsh port, with the assistance of a tug. The vessel landed heavily onto the jetty when the pilot's order for "easy weight" was confused for an order for full weight.

Case Number 1694/2003 17/11/2003 Fire/Explosion

Regulation Accident Status Closed

Location High seas Non UK 2859.0 N 9314.0 W

Natural Light Light Sea State

Visibility Wind force Range

Tanker/combination carrier Dead 0 Injured 0 Minor Damage

Flag **U.K.**

96235.00 gt

When: **On passage 0.01** Reg. L **293.00** LOA

Machinery

Liquid gas carrier

Fire and explosion

Unsafe practices

Location: Other internal deck/space

Fire in the rope store was detected by the fire detection system and the fire was successfully brought under control. Subsequent investigation showed that the seat of the fire had been coils of manila and nylon ropes.

No cause of the fire could be found despite extensive investigation. The cause seems likely to be careless disposal of smoking materials.

Case Number 1897/2007 08/12/2007 Accident To Person

Regulation Accident to Person Status Closed

Location Port/harbour area English

Sheerness

Natural Light Darkness Sea State Unknown

Visibility Good (5 - 10) Wind force Range 4-6

Dead **0** Injured **1 No Damage**

Liquid gas carrier Flag Algeria

LNG 80654.00 gt

When: **Mooring operations** 0.01 Reg. L 281.72 LOA

Safety

General shipboard activities

Involving Mooring Operations

Location: Mooring deck

Other

Injured Details

Age Unknown
Gender Male
Region Unknown
On/Off Duty? On duty

Tanker/combination carrier

Injury Fracture - other Rank Rating - Deck

Safe ship environment

Location: Mooring deck

Poor/slippery/uneven surface

Human factor

Working environment

Humidity

While a foreign registered LNG tanker was in the process of letting go, the master reported to the port authority that a seaman had suffered head injuries and that he should be evacuated ashore. The vessel was re-secured and the gangway was rigged again. The casualty was taken ashore by crew members and shore staff to an awaiting ambulance for treatment at an hospital. The injured seaman may have slipped on the wet decks as it had been raining. Although he had been wearing a safety helmet, he suffered a fractured cheek bone, a swollen eye and a small cut on his head. The vessel sailed shortly after the casualty had been taken to the hospital.