

ReCAAP ISC Piracy and Sea Robbery Conference 2014

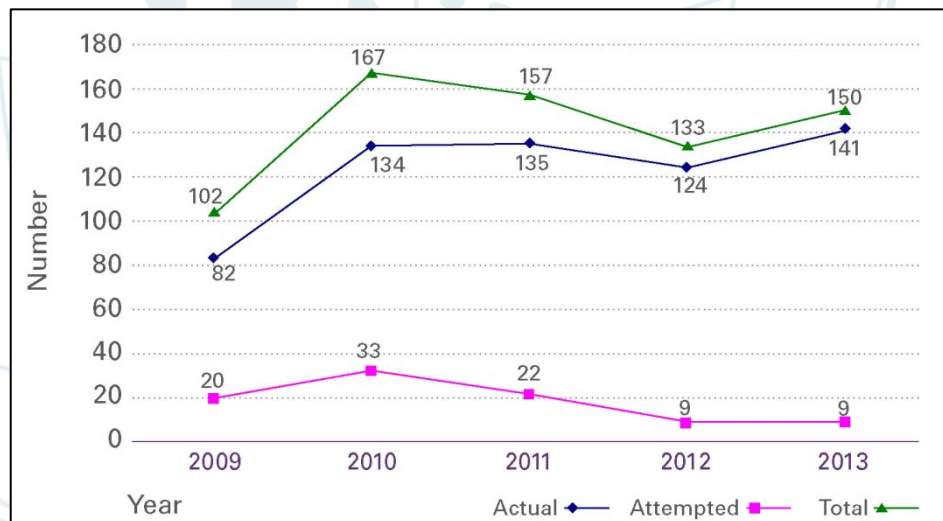
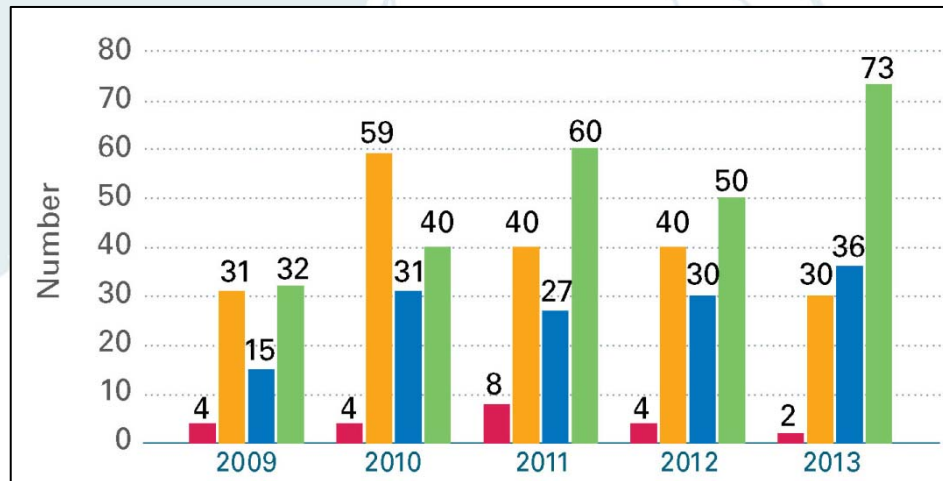
Situation on Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia

8 April 2014

Scope

- ❖ Situation on Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia
 - ☑ 2013
 - ☑ 1st Quarter of 2014
- ❖ Case Studies
- ❖ Observations
- ❖ Conclusion

Situation (2009-2013)



Category 1 (Very Significant)

Category 2 (Moderately Significant)

Category 3 (Less Significant)

Petty Theft (Minimum Significant)

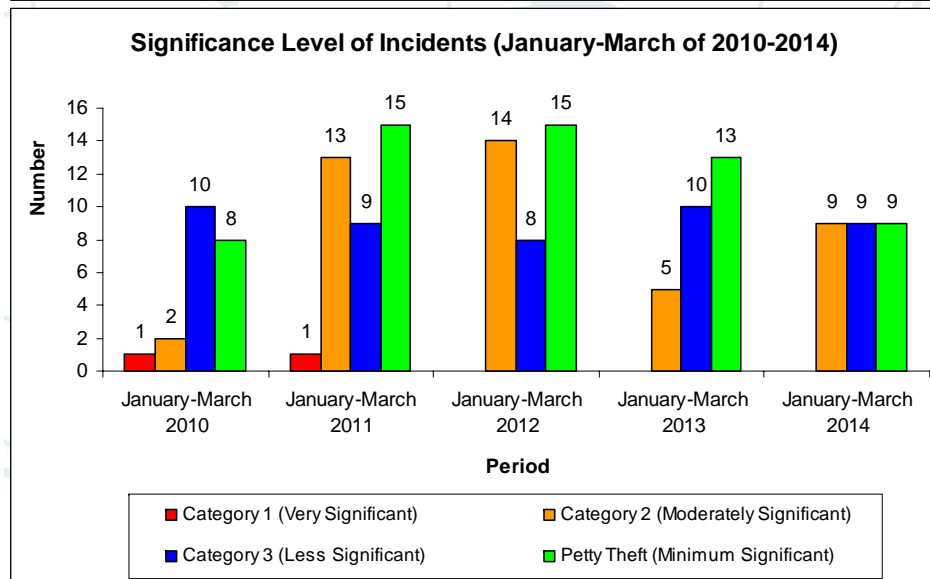
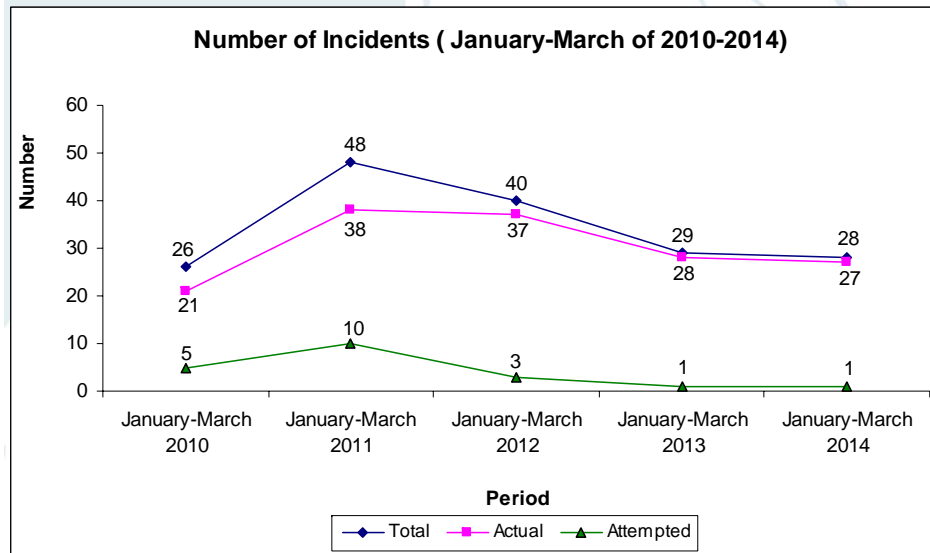
- ❖ 2013:
 - ☑ 11 x piracy incident
 - ☑ 139 x robberies
- ❖ Overall improvement in severity level
- ❖ Number of incidents has increased
 - ☑ Bulk were petty theft
 - ☑ CAT 3 + Petty theft (77%)
 - ☑ CAT 1 and CAT 2 lowest
- ❖ Possible reasons for increase in numbers
 - ☑ True reflection
 - ☑ Under-reporting in the past
 - ☑ Greater awareness of need to report
 - ☑ Better situation awareness

Location of Incidents (2013)



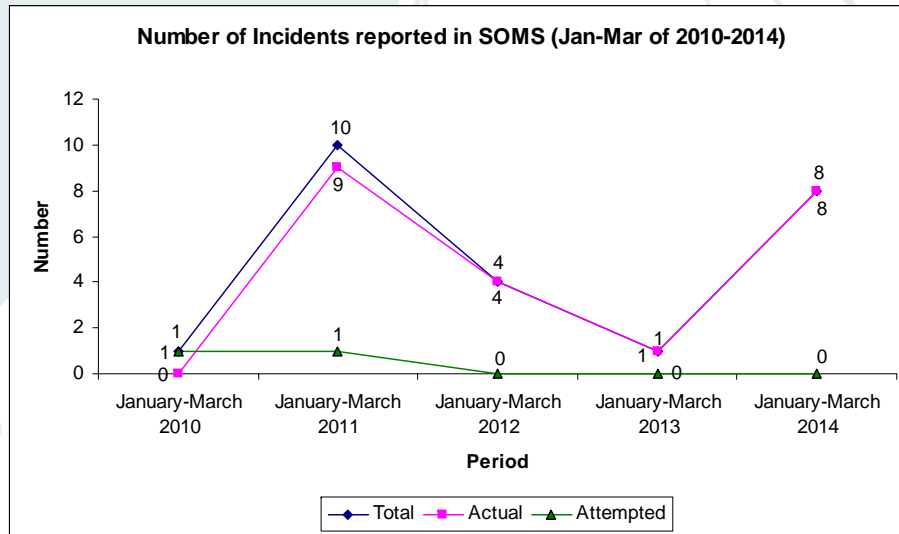
- ❖ Approx 80% at ports and anchorages
 - ✓ Indonesia (78), India (11), Vietnam (8), Bangladesh (6), Philippines (5)
 - ✓ Mainly CAT 3 and petty thefts (84%)
- ❖ 20% incidents onboard vessels while underway
 - ✓ SCS (10), SOMS (12)
 - ✓ More severe in SCS (1 x CAT 1, 6 x CAT 2)
 - ✓ Less severe in SOMS (2 x CAT 3, 9 x PT)

Situation (Jan-Mar of 2010-2014)



- ❖ January-March 2014:
 - ☑ 3 x piracy incidents
 - ☑ 25 x robberies
- ❖ Overall fairly consistent compared to 2013
- ❖ General decrease for 3rd consecutive year
- ❖ Bulk of incidents CAT 3 + petty thefts
 - ☑ No CAT 1 incidents reported for last three years
 - ☑ But, CAT 2 incidents increase (33%) compared to last year (18%)
 - ☑ Decrease in PT

Situation in SOMS



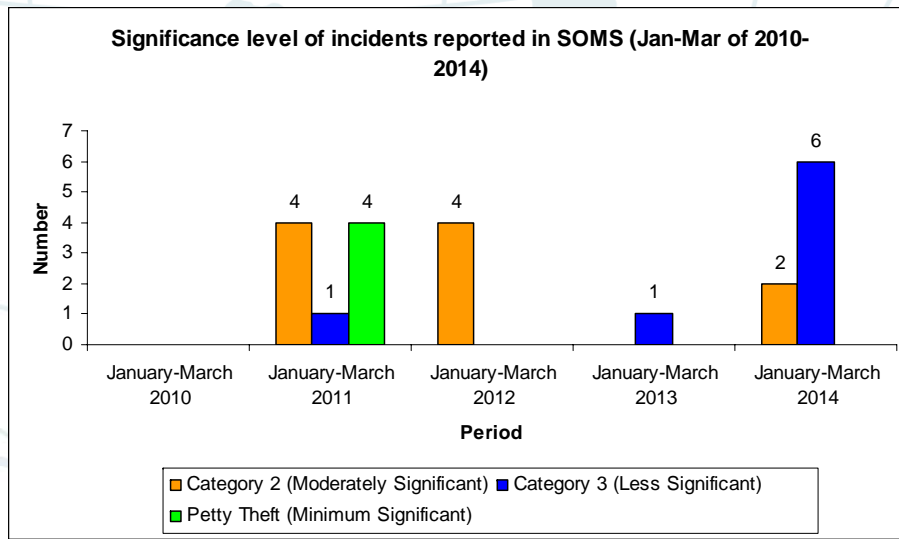
❖ Number of incidents reported has increased

☑ Downward trend for two consecutive years (2012 and 2013)

☑ Increase in 2014

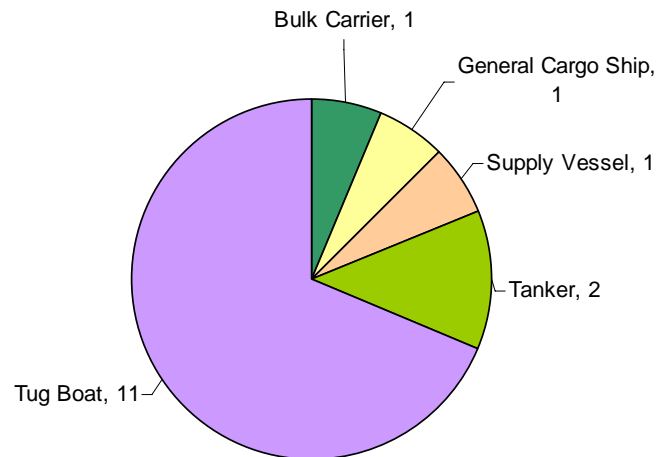
❖ Mostly CAT 3 incidents

☑ Incidents reported has been less severe for the last two years (2013 and 2014)



Situation in SOMS

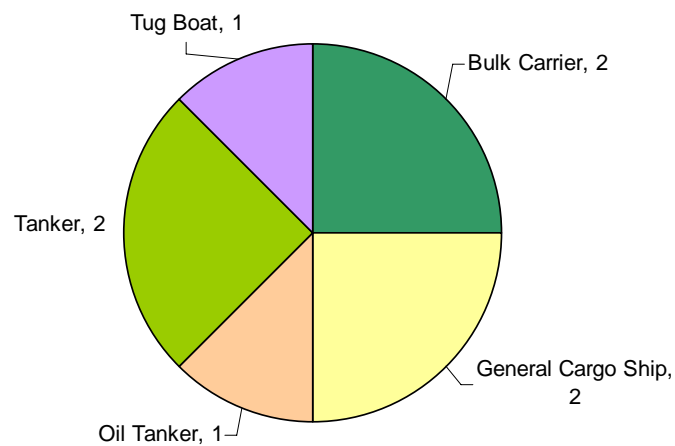
Type of vessel involved (Jan-Mar of 2010-2013)



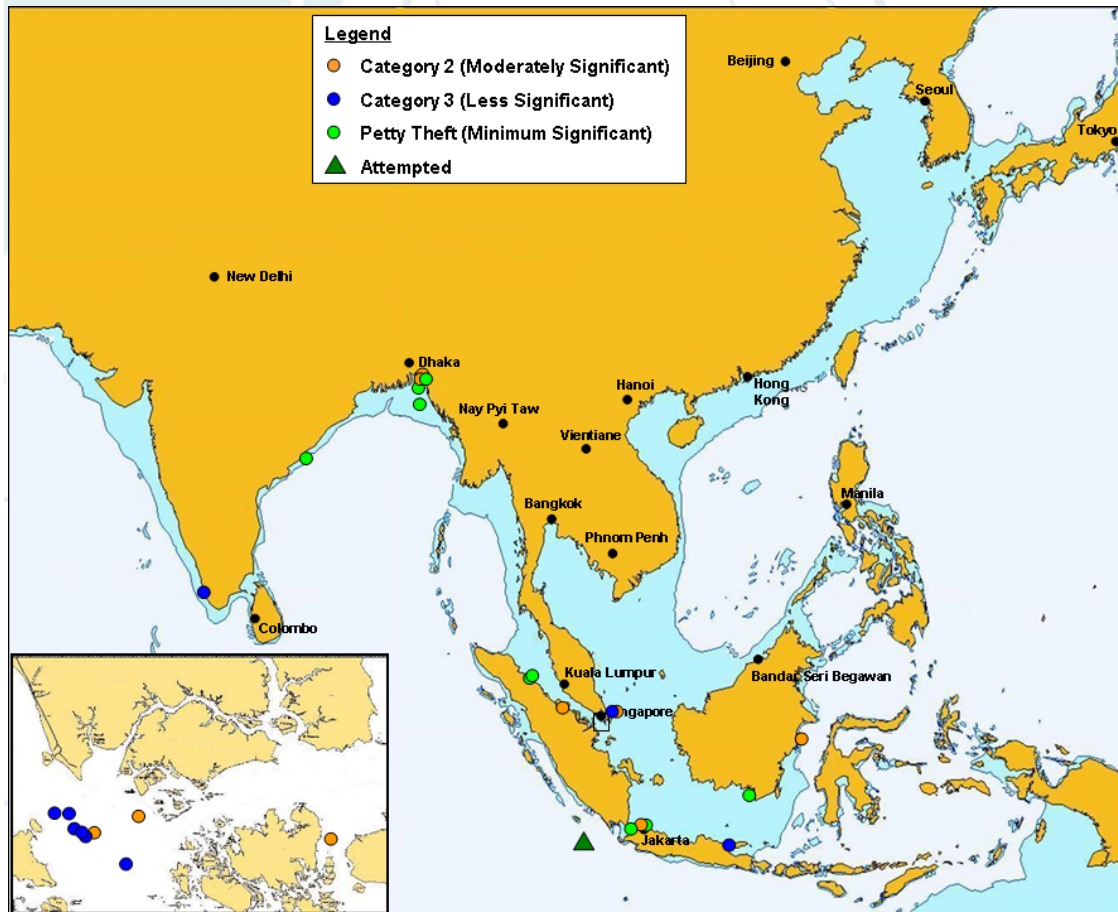
❖ Type of vessel

- ✓ Tug boats and barges have been frequently targeted (2010-2013)
- ✓ More incidents involved tankers, bulk carriers and general cargo during Jan-Mar 2014

Type of vessel involved (Jan-Mar 2014)

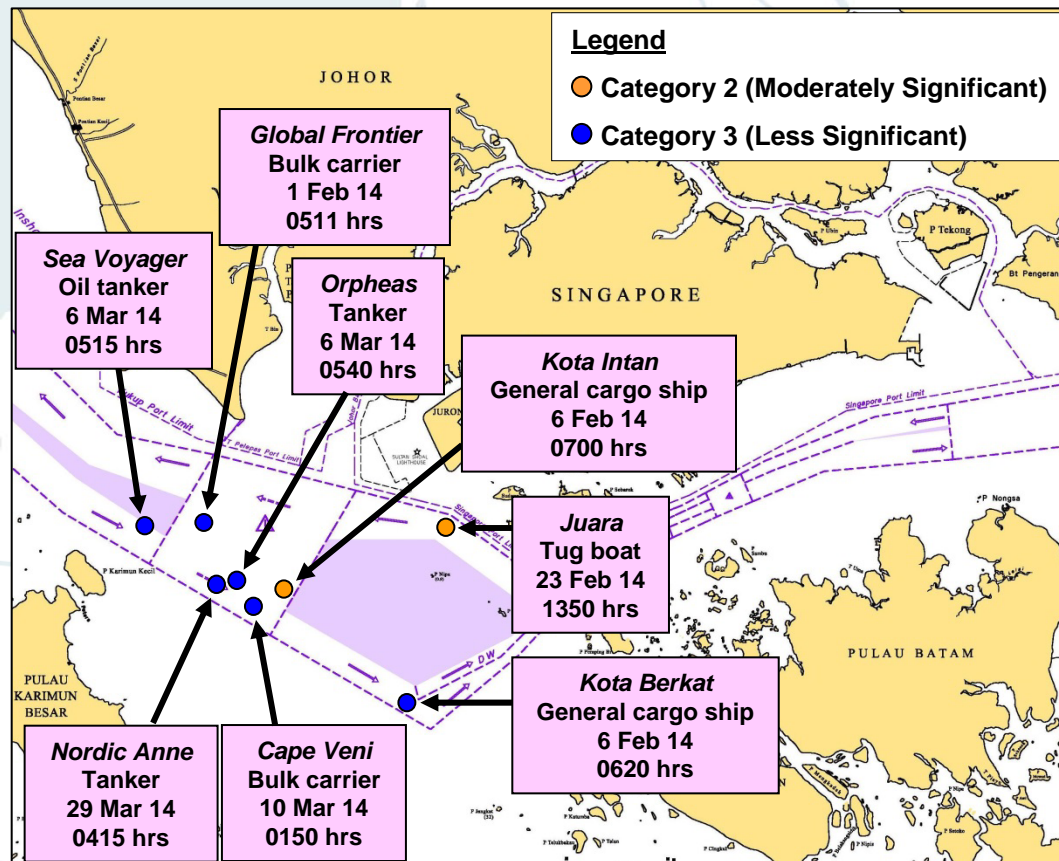


Location of Incidents (Jan-Mar 2014)



- ❖ 60% at ports and anchorages
 - ✓ Indonesia (12), Bangladesh (3), India (2)
 - ✓ Incidents more severe at certain ports/anchorages
 - ✓ Seven out of 17 incidents are CAT 2
- ❖ 40% incidents onboard vessels while underway
 - ✓ Mainly occurred in SOMS (8)
 - ✓ Mostly less severe incidents
 - ✓ Six out of nine incidents are CAT 3 or PT

Situation in SOMS



Littoral States
to increase
presence



Ship masters and
crew to exercise
extra vigilance

- ❖ Modus Operandi (ALL vessels less tug boat towed barge)
 - ✓ 4-5 robbers
 - ✓ Armed with knives / machetes
 - ✓ Usually avoid confrontation with crew and escapes when alarm is raised
 - ✓ Engine spares commonly targeted
- ❖ Modus Operandi (Barge)
 - ✓ Larger group of robbers (20)
 - ✓ Board barge
 - ✓ Steal cargo or items from barge before escaping

Incidents in 2013

- ❖ Theft while ships conducting STS operations
- ❖ Incidents involving tug boats and barges



Case Studies

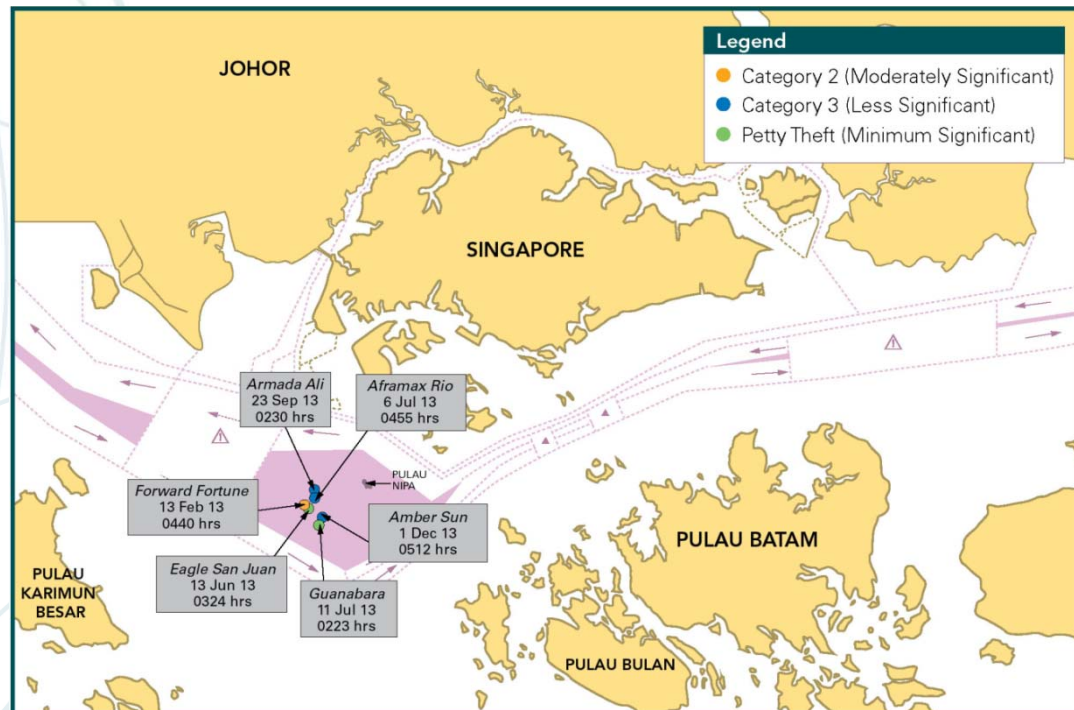
Theft while Conducting STS Operations

❖ Modus Operandi

- ✓ Robbers: 4-6
- ✓ During hours of darkness during STS operations
- ✓ Boarded from the disengaged side of ship
- ✓ Armed with knives, sometimes aggressive
- ✓ Targeted engine spares & stores

❖ Location: Pulau Nipa anchorages

❖ 0 (2010) → 1 (2011) → 0 (2012) → 6 (2013) → **0 (Jan-Mar 14)**

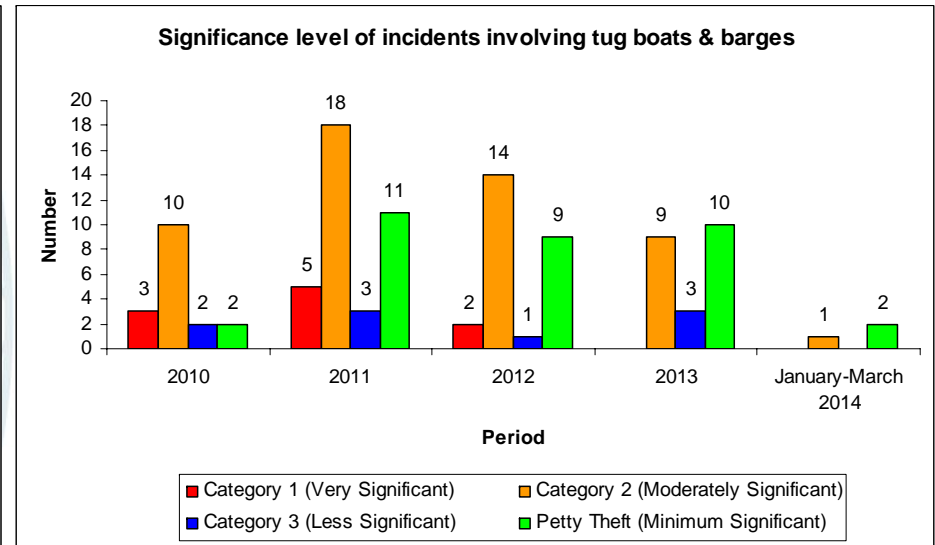
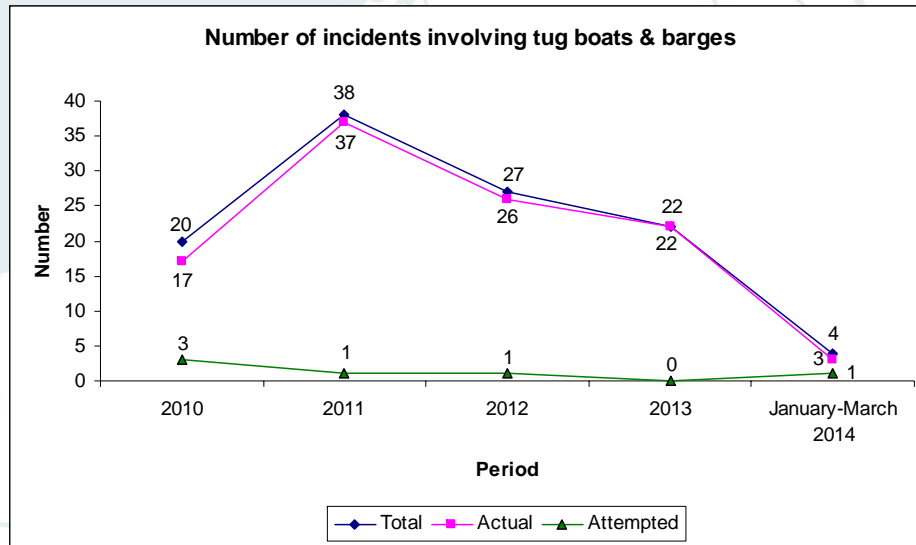


Theft while Conducting STS Operations

❖ Sharing by ReCAAP ISC throughout 2013

- ☑ Increase patrols by crew during STS
- ☑ Maintain comms with VTMS/port authorities
- ☑ Raise alarm upon sighting of suspicious person
- ☑ Enhance vigilance

Incidents involving Tug Boats & Barges



❖ Decreasing trend since 2011: 38 (2011) → 27 (2012) → 22 (2013)

❖ Continuing trend in January-March 2014 (4)

❖ Incidents less severe

☑ Category 3 & Petty thefts

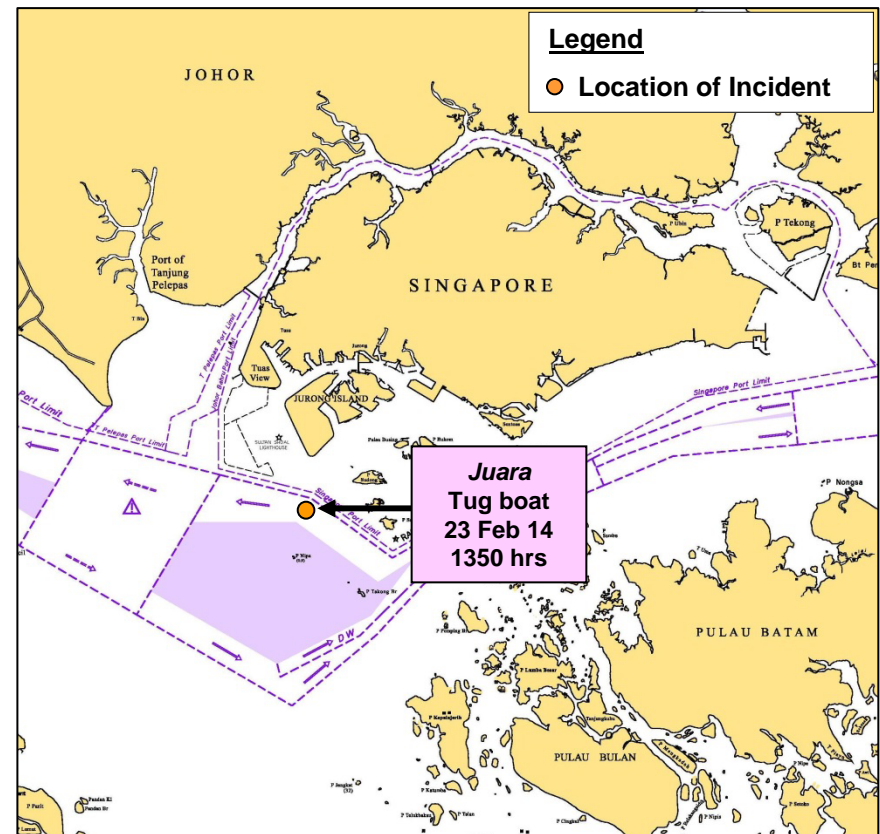
➡ 24% (2010) → 38% (2011) → 38% (2012) → 64% (2013) → 66% (Jan-Mar 14)

☑ No CAT 1 incident since 2013

Incidents involving Tug Boats & Barges

Juara

- ❖ On 23 Feb 14 at or about 1350 hrs, Malaysia-registered tug boat, *Juara* towing barge, *Smooth 1* was underway in the Singapore Straits Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS)
- ❖ 20 robbers in four boats approached and boarded the barge
- ❖ The Singapore Police Coast Guard and MSTF were informed immediately
- ❖ Robbers escaped 10 min later
- ❖ Stole approximately one quarter of the scrap metal cargo



Incidents involving Tug Boats & Barges

- ❖ Modus operandi involving tug boats & barges has evolved

Before 2013

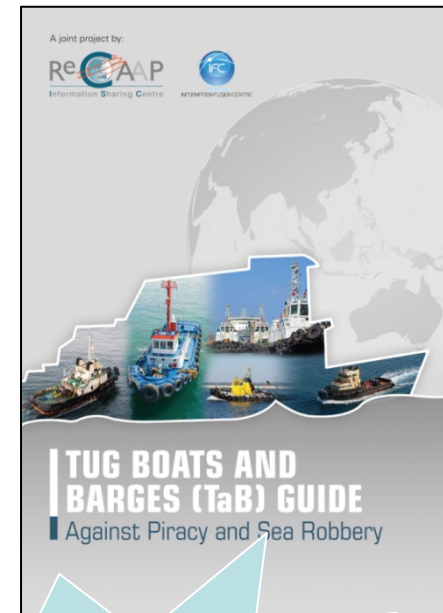
- ✓ Pirates/robbers board tug boat
- ✓ Steal cash and personal belongings of crew
- ✓ Hijack tug boat; abandon barge

Since 2013

- ✓ Pirates/robbers board barge
- ✓ Large groups of robbers in multiple boats
- ✓ Steal stores or cargo onboard barge

- ❖ Recommendations

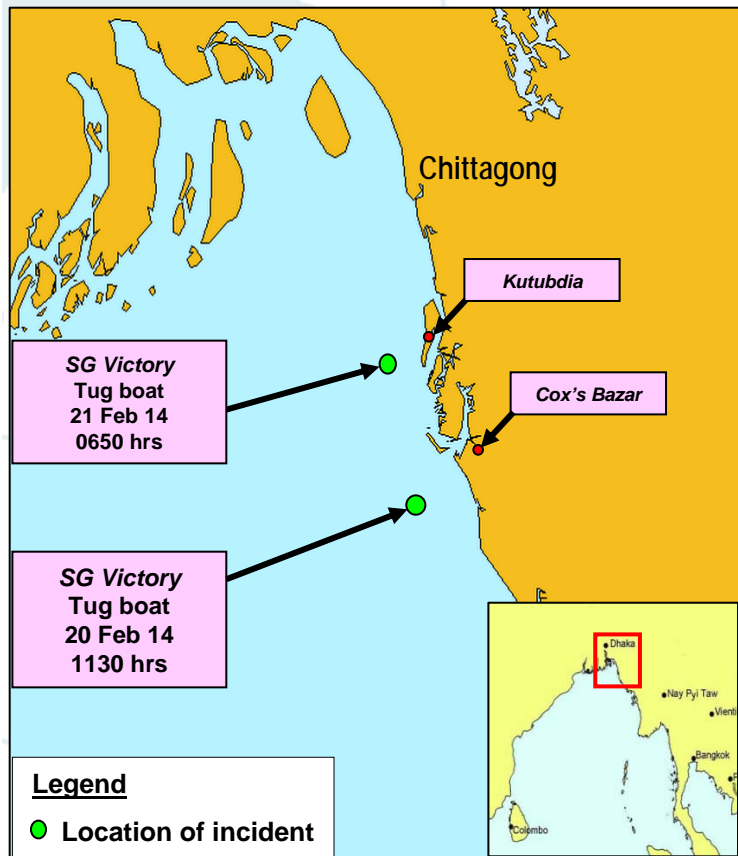
- ✓ Exercise extra vigilance
- ✓ Maintain communication
- ✓ Inform ships in the vicinity
- ✓ Refer to *Tug Boats and Barges (TaB) Guide*



Download TaB Guide at

www.recaap.org

Incident onboard *SG Victory*



- ❖ Tug boat, *SG Victory* was towing scrap vessel, *MV Chan* departed Singapore for Chittagong Outer Anchorage
- ❖ On 20 Feb 14 at or about 1130 hrs, robbers in five boats boarded *MV Chan* and stole scrap metal, and escaped
- ❖ On 21 Feb 14 at or about 0650 hrs, master reported to Bangladesh Coast Guard about theft near Kutubdia/outer anchorage area
- ❖ Bangladesh Coast Guard sent patrol boat immediately and apprehended nine robbers and two mechanized boats
 - ☑ Stolen scrap items were also recovered
- ❖ Robbers and recovered items were handed over to local police

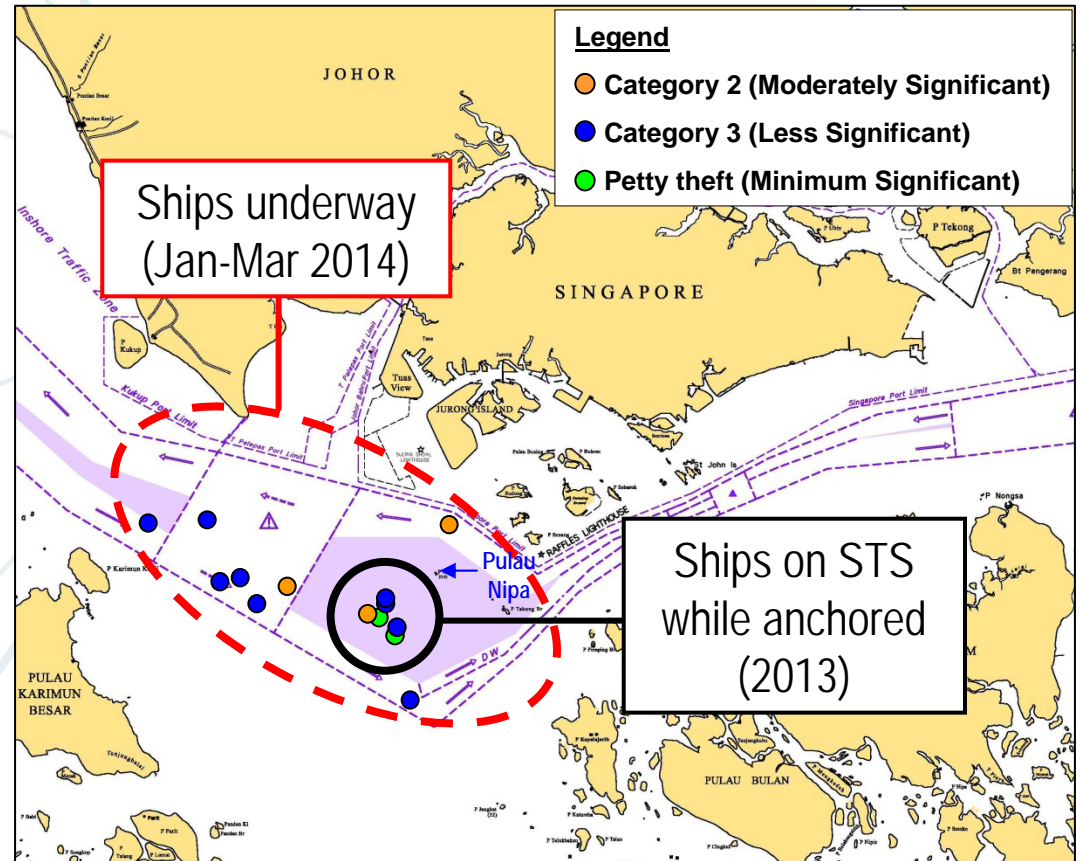
Observations

❖ Shift in modus operandi off SW Johor/P. Nipa/P. Karimun

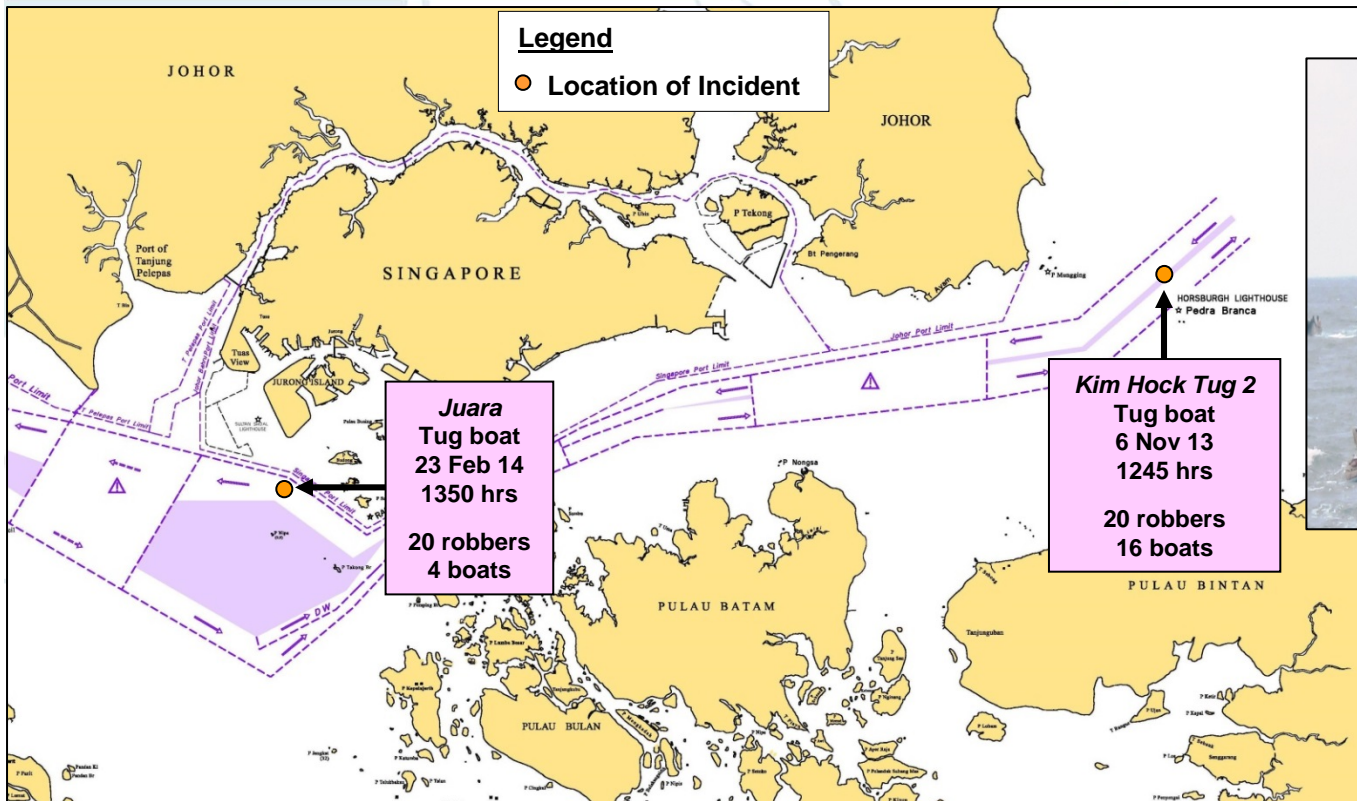
- ✓ From ships conducting STS anchored off P. Nipa
- ✓ To ships underway in SOMS

❖ Bigger Vessels underway targeted

- ✓ Traditionally tug boats and barges
- ✓ Now bulk carrier, general cargo ship, tankers



Observations



Robbers transferring scrap metal from barge to boats (Photograph courtesy of shipping company)

❖ Barges carrying cargo (such as scrap metal) targeted

- ✓ Involved large number of small boats and robbers
- ✓ Occurred during daylight hours
- ✓ *Kim Hock Tug 2* (6 Nov 13), *Juara* (23 Feb 14)

Conclusion

❖ Shift in modus operandi

- ☑ Need to monitor if trend persists

❖ More enforcement onboard Barges

❖ Crew to enhance vigilance, activate alarm, immediate reporting to nearest coastal State

❖ Authorities to response immediate

❖ No room for complacency

- ☑ Incidents at certain ports and anchorages more severe
- ☑ Littoral States to increase presence in SOMS; ship masters and crew to exercise extra vigilance

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SHUKURIA
JUSPAXAR
TASHAKKUR ATU
SUKSAMA
EKGHMET
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YOU
BOLZIN
MERCIE
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BIYAN
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