



Merchant Shipping Directorate



POTENTIAL HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH CARRIAGE OF CARGOES IN BULK

Information Notice 36

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,
Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations*

The Directorate would like to draw the attention of all concerned to the Marine Safety Investigation Report [No.13/2020](#). This report highlights the potential hazard involved in the carriage of glass cullet and entrance into enclosed spaces.

Particular attention is drawn to SOLAS Chapter VI/VII and the IMSBC Code, that states that prior to loading any solid bulk cargo, it is essential to obtain updated and valid information from the shipper on the physical and chemical properties of the cargo. The responsibility in determining any hazards associated with the transport of cargoes rests primarily with the shipper.

Furthermore, prior to entry into an enclosed space, each cargo hold must be treated as an enclosed space whether loaded or in empty condition. Note should be taken that after a cargo space or tank has been tested and generally found safe for entry, small areas may still contain oxygen levels that do not support life.

The attention of all concerned is also drawn to the revised recommendations for Entering into Enclosed Spaces aboard ships - IMO Resolution A.1050(27) and Section 3.2 of the IMSBC Code, that recognize the importance of following the appropriate safety procedures prior to entering enclosed spaces and the hazards brought by solid bulk cargoes.

All concerned are strongly recommended to communicate the identified findings and lessons learnt from this safety investigation to their crew onboard their vessels.

Merchant Shipping Directorate

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Merchant Shipping Directorate
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