

JTSB Safety Recommendation to the BLUE MARINE MANAGEMENT CORP.

October 28, 2011

Cargo ship "MARINE STAR"
Container ship "TAKASAGO"
Collision

Occurred at the Bisan Seto East Traffic Route on February 20, 2009

The accident occurred at night in the Bisan Seto East Traffic Route off Sakaide Port, where MARINE STAR (hereinafter referred to as "Ship A") was proceeding northward and TAKASAGO (hereinafter referred to as "Ship B") was proceeding eastward along the East Traffic Route, when Ship A, although obligated to keep out of the way of Ship B proceeding along the route, was proceeding with the intention of passing by the stern of Ship B in a situation where there was risk of collision with Ship B, without noticing that Ship A was approaching ahead of Ship B. It is fortunate that the accident caused no severe pollution although the site of the collision is located in a key area for the transportation and fishing industries and is always congested with heavy vessel traffic.

The Japan Transport Safety Board, in view of the results of this accident investigation, recommends the Panama Maritime Authority, the ASIA SHIPPING NAVIGATION S.A. as the owner of Ship A and the BLUE MARINE MANAGEMENT CORP. as the management company of Ship A to take the following actions.

The Panama Maritime Authority should guide the ASIA SHIPPING NAVIGATION S.A. to have the BLUE MARINE MANAGEMENT CORP. execute proper ship management to secure safe operation.

The ASIA SHIPPING NAVIGATION S.A. should instruct the BLUE MARINE MANAGEMENT CORP. to follow the navigation rules of the state where vessel call, prepare a proper watchkeeping arrangement and ensure the safety of navigation.

The BLUE MARINE MANAGEMENT CORP. should provide clear and specific instructions on the rules that must be obeyed to the ships that navigate in this sea area, and at the same time guide the ships to ensure safety by reinforcing watchkeeping arrangements on the bridge through the measures including the increase of the number of crew on bridge watchkeeping duty.