



DMAIB

DANISH MARITIME ACCIDENT
INVESTIGATION BOARD

INTERIM REPORT

MURCIA MAERSK & BD-30947-TS

Collision on 19 July 2023

The information contained in this interim report is based on the data available for the investigation to date. Readers are cautioned that new evidence may become available that might alter the circumstances as depicted in this report.

FACTUAL INFORMATION

At 0704 local time (UTC-8) on 19 July 2023, the Danish container vessel MURCIA MAERSK (Figure 1) and the Vietnamese fishing vessel BD-30947-TS (Figure 2) collided in the South China Sea, Vietnam. BD-30947-TS sank and suffered a total loss shortly after. Six crewmembers were on board BD-30947-TS at the time of the collision. Four were recovered from the sea. A rescue operation was ongoing for 41 hours to search for the remaining two crewmembers without result. Hence, the two missing fishermen were presumed dead. MURCIA MAERSK suffered no damages or injuries to persons on board.

INVESTIGATION

DMAIB launched an investigation immediately after receiving the notification of the collision and the subsequent loss of BD-30947-TS. The aim of the investigation was to establish the sequence of events and determine factors and circumstances crucial for the outcome. For this purpose, DMAIB examined weather and sea state; traffic; availability, specifications and use of navigational equipment; and watch-keeping practices on both ship's.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

DMAIB's technical investigation has been completed and a draft report is under preparation. Once the draft is completed, it will be distributed to stakeholders for consultation before the final report is made public.



Figure 1: MURCIA MAERSK
Source: DMAIB



Figure 2: BD-30947-TS
Source: Private photo

| SHIP INFORMATION | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Name: | MURCIA MAERSK | BD-30947-TS |
| Ship type: | Container vessel | Fishing vessel |
| Nationality: | Denmark | Vietnam |
| Call sign: | OWTB2 | Unknown |
| IMO number: | 9780457 | None |
| Year built: | 2018 | 2000 |
| DOC Company | Maersk A/S | None |
| Registered owner: | Maersk A/S | Private owner |
| Classification Society: | American Bureau of Shipping | None |
| Length overall: | 399.00 m | 13.50 m |
| Breadth overall: | 56.80 m | 4.10 m |
| Gross tonnage: | 214,286 | 20.90 |
| Deadweight: | 169,629 t | Unknown |
| Hull material: | Steel | Wood |
| Hull design: | Single | Single |
| | | |
| VOYAGE PARTICULARS | | |
| Port of departure: | Shanghai, China | Vung Tau, Vietnam |
| Planned destination: | Tanjung Pelepas, Malaysia | Vung Tau, Vietnam |
| Voyage type: | International | International |
| Information about the cargo: | Containers | Squid |
| Manning: | 25 | 6 |
| Pilot on board: | No | No |
| | | |
| MARINE CASUALTY INFORMATION | | |
| Date and time: | 19 July 2023 at 0704 (UTC -8) | |
| Location of incident: | South China Sea (06°23.3' N 107°31.7' E) | |
| Weather conditions: | Wind: North-west, force 7. Sea: 2-3 m. Weather: Fog. Visibility: 0.25 nm | |
| Type of marine casualty: | Less serious | Very serious |
| Ship operation: | Manoeuvring | Manoeuvring |
| Voyage segment: | Midwater | Midwater |
| Injuries/fatalities: | None | 2 fatalities |
| Damages: | None | Total loss of BD-30947-TS |

