

Ref : DMA/AIFI/96/C 834

Date: 17/10/2017

Dear Captain
Good Day,

This is to inform that recently an accident was reported from one of the fleet vessels concerning outbreak of fire in the vessel's incinerator, which caused severe damage to its burner.

The description and root cause quoted below is as per report received from the vessel.

Description of incident:

Incinerator was prepared for burning of collected garbage by engine staff. Different categories of garbage were collected inside incinerator furnace including wood, paper and oily rags and then incinerator was started, a while after fire detection system was activated from incinerator zone.

Engine room staff were notified and after inspecting the area, they found that the incinerator's burner was on fire and reported the same to bridge. Emergency alarm sounded and Ship's crew were mustered to tackle the fire. Fortunately fire was controlled and finally extinguished by engine staves using fire extinguishers.

Cause of incident:

After investigation by ship staff , it was revealed that the fire was due to:

- 1- High accumulation of garbage and/or piling up of woods and high combustible material which was more than burning capacity of incinerator furnace, caused a big flame which reached up to the burner head.
- 2- The incinerator safeties were not activated on time. This could be due to probable defective condition of the safeties or due to burning of their electrical cable which lead to short circuit and consequently malfunctioning of the incinerator safeties.

Lessons to be learnt:

- 1- Well-trained personnel shall operate the incinerator and follow the maker's instructions for proper procedure.

- 2- Before operating Incinerator all safety devices shall be checked and make sure all are operational.
- 3- Planned maintenance shall be followed and any defective safety devices and or parts shall be immediately repaired.
- 4- Maximum allowable furnace capacity as well as the amount and type of garbage accumulated inside the furnace shall be within acceptable limit and type.
- 5- Combustible materials or garbage shall not be kept near the incinerator.

You are requested to confirm receipt, discuss the contents in the next consolidated meeting on board & keep a copy in the file DA-11 .

Best Regards,

Ali Mohtasham

Accident Investigation / Fleet Inspection Expert

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