



Bundesstelle für Seeunfalluntersuchung Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation

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Press Release 4/15

The Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation (BSU) hereby gives notice that the investigation report No. 128/14 was published on 12 May 2015. The report deals with the Allision between the MSC BENEDETTA and the pier in Zeebrugge on 16 May 2014. Upon request the report will be forwarded. Alternatively this report – as well as all previous reports – is available on the website <http://www.bsu-bund.de> and can be downloaded.

Short version:

Allision between the MSC BENEDETTA and the pier in Zeebrugge on 16 May 2014

At 0504 on 16 May 2014 the German flagged MSC BENEDETTA struck the pier with her starboard side. A tear formed in the shell plating level with the waterline. As a consequence two ballast water tanks filled with water.

There were no injuries and the environment was not affected.

The ship could be repaired at the pier. This investigation report is once more directed at all ship's commands and pilots to co-operate as a bridge team.

The BSU published the investigation report on 12 May 2015. The report is available on www.bsu-bund.de.

Long version:

Allision between the MSC BENEDETTA and the pier in Zeebrugge on 16 May 2014

On 16 May 2014 the German flagged container ship MSC BENEDETTA approached the port of Zeebrugge (Belgium). The pilots embarked on 0306 and took charge of advising the ship's command during the berthing manoeuvre in the Albert II Dock. After one tug was made fast forward and the other aft, the MSC BENEDETTA was turned by about 90° and slowly moved to the pier. The influence of the current was obviously not assessed properly, resulting in the MSC BENEDETTA's starboard side striking the pier level with her superstructure at 0504.

A tear formed in the shell plating level with the waterline. As a consequence two ballast tanks filled with water. There was no environmental pollution.

The ship could be repaired at the pier.

This report is once more directed at all ship's commands and pilots, advising them to co-operate as a well-functioning bridge team through comprehensive communication.

Volker Schellhammer
Director