



# Bundesstelle für Seeunfalluntersuchung

## Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation

Federal Higher Authority subordinated to the Ministry of  
Transport and Digital Infrastructure

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### Press Release 15/16

The Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation (BSU) hereby gives notice that the Annual Report 2015 was published on 21 July 2016. This report – as well as all previous reports – is available on the website <http://www.bsu-bund.de> and can be downloaded.

In 2015, a total of 510 (previous year: 426) accidents and incidents were reported to the BSU, 268 (240) of which were to be classified as marine casualties. 8 (previous year: 6) fell within the category “very serious marine casualty” with fatal consequences, total loss or serious environmental pollution. Moreover 16 (previous year: 20) serious marine casualties and 244 (previous year: 214) less serious casualties were reported.

With a number of 152 notifications, collisions involving ships or ships and objects (in locks) accounted again for the most frequent types of accidents.

In 2015, the number of very serious marine casualties unfortunately increased. 7 marine casualties resulted in 1 fatality in each case. Furthermore, there was the foundering and total loss of a fishing vessel.

In 2015, the BSU concluded 13 investigations with the publication of an investigation report. Moreover, the BSU published 4 interim investigation reports and prepared 11 internal investigation reports. On 31 December 2015, 28 investigations were still ongoing.

In December 2015, the investigation of the marine casualties involving the two ships flying the Italian flag, COSTA CONCORDIA and NORMAN ATLANTIC, which also resulted in two German fatalities, were discontinued by the German investigative authority.

The investigations and the final investigation reports of the BSU do not serve to apportion blame or to clarify liability issues. They shall not sanction but instead give incentives for the prevention of future accidents and include all parties involved in a safety partnership.

All investigation reports and safety recommendations published by the BSU, sorted by the year of publication, are available on the website [www.bsu-bund.de](http://www.bsu-bund.de).

Volker Schellhammer  
Director