



Bundesstelle für Seeunfalluntersuchung Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation

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

Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation • P.O. Box 30 12 20 • 20305 Hamburg

Office Building

Bernhard-Nocht-Str. 78
20359 Hamburg
Tel.: + 49 (0) 40 31 90 – 0
Fax: + 49 (0) 40 31 90 – 83 40
posteingang-bsu@bsh.de
<http://www.bsu-bund.de>

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+ 49 (0) 40 31 90 – 83 11
e-mail: posteingang-bsu@bsh.de

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The Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation (BSU) published the interim report to investigation report No. 12/16 on 18 January 2017. The report deals with the collision between the general cargo ship EVERT PRAHM and the Rendsburg transporter bridge on 8 January 2016 in Kiel Canal. This interim report – as well as all previous reports – is available on the website www.bsu-bund.de and can be downloaded.

Abstract

Collision between MV EVERT PRAHM and the Rendsburg transporter bridge

The EVERT PRAHM was transiting the Kiel Canal westbound under pilotage in the morning of 8 January 2016. It had snowed during the night. At 0635, the vessel approached Rendsburg Bridge in darkness at a speed over ground of about 8.8 kts. The transporter suspended below the railway bridge was on the northern bank of the Kiel Canal at the time. In addition to the operator, there was also a passenger on the transporter. The EVERT PRAHM kept to the middle of the fairway and was just short of Rendsburg Bridge when the transporter set off toward the southern bank. Despite the EVERT PRAHM executing a full astern manoeuvre combined with hard-a-port, it was not

possible to prevent the collision. The transporter struck amidships against the EVERT PRAHM and then struck the starboard wing before it scraped over the wheelhouse. It was caught centrally over the Kiel Canal, severely damaged. Both passengers on the transporter were injured, one of them severely. The EVERT PRAHM made slight contact with the southern embankment, but she was able to free herself and sail into the district port of Rendsburg. As a result of the accident, the Kiel Canal and Rendsburg Bridge were closed to shipping and rail traffic respectively. With the assistance of the canal ferry MEMEL, both injured were

rescued from the transporter bridge.

Due to the complexity of the documents that need to be viewed, the expert opinions commissioned by the parties involved in particular, the investigation was delayed. The interim report can be downloaded at www.bsu-bund.de.

Volker Schellhammer
Director