



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>

Your reference
Your message from

My reference
(please state on reply)
496/16

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

Date
18.01.2017

PRESS RELEASE No. 23/16

The Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation (BSU) published the interim report to investigation report No. 496/15 on 18 January 2017. The report deals with a fire in the cargo hold of the multipurpose ship VENTURA on 18 December 2015 off the Kiel-Holtenau locks. This interim report – as well as all previous reports – is available on the website www.bsu-bund.de and can be downloaded.

Abstract

Fire in the cargo hold of MV VENTURA on the Kiel Firth

The Antigua and Barbuda-flagged multipurpose ship VENTURA was en route to the Kiel-Holtenau locks on 18 December 2015 under pilotage. The ship was carrying almost 4,811 mt of unmolassed sugarbeetpulp pellets.

Smoke was noticed on board at about 1200 and the fire alarm then sounded. The VTS centre assigned the VENTURA an emergency mooring off Vossbrook on the Kiel Firth.

Kiel Fire Service deployed a firefighting unit on board to investigate. The Central Command for Maritime Emergencies formally took charge of coordinating the incident in the early evening.

The VENTURA made fast in Kiel Ostuferhafen port at 2100. Part of the cargo was subsequently unloaded onto the pier using an excavator belonging to the port and extinguished there by the Kiel Fire Brigade.

Both the VENTURA's cargo hold and cargo were damaged by the accident. Neither people nor the marine environment were affected.

Changes in the BSU's staffing gave rise to new lead investigators while the investigation was ongoing. This delayed completion of the investigation.

The interim report can be downloaded at www.bsu-bund.de.

Volker Schellhammer
Director