



Bundesstelle für Seeunfalluntersuchung Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation

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

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The Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation (BSU) gives notification that the interim investigation report on an accident with subsequent loss of life on board the SAJIR in the roadstead off Ningbo (China) was published on 18 December 2020. The interim report provides information on the subject under investigation, the course and the current status of the investigative work. It can be viewed and downloaded on the internet at

<https://www.bsu-bund.de/EN/News/newPublications>.

Very serious marine casualty

At the end of 2019, the container ship SAJIR was at anchor in ballast in the roadstead about 10 nm off the pilot transfer position at Ningbo (China).

Several deck ratings inspected the empty cargo holds and removed any objects that could cause an obstruction when loading containers. At about 1700 local time, the bosun was in cargo hold 9 and fell some 8 m from the enclosure of part of the engine room onto the floor of the cargo hold, suffering life-threatening injuries due to the impact.

Despite the proximity to an international port, the crew had to conduct the ensuing emergency management largely without external support. It immediately administered first aid at the scene of the accident, provided transport from the scene of the accident to the ship's sick bay under difficult conditions and took charge of emergency care with the support of the telemedical maritime assistance service in Cuxhaven

(TMAS Germany/Medico Cuxhaven). Despite the best possible medical care on board, the bosun succumbed to his serious injuries at around 2040.

The emergency doctor arrived on board at 2140 some 4.5 hours after the master had made a corresponding request without undue delay but could only record the time of death.

The BSU began its investigation at the earliest possible moment and has largely completed it.

The investigation report containing an analysis, conclusions and safety recommendations is currently being prepared. Interested parties will be given the opportunity to comment before publication.

All investigation reports, safety recommendations and other BSU publications can be found at

<https://www.bsu-bund.de/EN/Publications>.

Ulf Kaspera
Director