



# Bundesstelle für Seeunfalluntersuchung

## Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation

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**Date**  
2 August 2023

### **PRESS RELEASE No. 11/23**

The Federal Bureau of Maritime Casualty Investigation (BSU) has published the Interim Investigation Report No. 380/22 pertaining to the fatal occupational accident on board the bulk carrier PETER OLDENDORFF that occurred on 3 August 2022 in the port of Mukran, on 2 August 2023. The Interim Investigation Report provides information on the subject, the course and the current state of the investigation and is available for download at

[https://www.bsu-bund.de/EN/Publications/Publications\\_node.html](https://www.bsu-bund.de/EN/Publications/Publications_node.html)

### **Very serious marine casualty – fatal occupational accident on board the bulk carrier PETER OLDENDORFF in the port of Mukran**

On the morning of 3 August 2022, a fatal occupational accident occurred on board the Liberian-registered bulk carrier PETER OLDENDORFF, moored for cargo operations at her berth in the port of Mukran

A crewmember (fitter-trainee) was to perform welding works in the steering gear room in the morning. This required, besides preparing the tools, to remove a plate from a stack stored vertically in a corner of the steering gear room in order to cut out a workpiece from this. The stack was secured against falling over by means of a cross strut locked by a screw connection. Due to the dimensions of the plates forming the stack (dimensions of the plates approx. 300 cm x 130 cm x 1 cm; mass approx. 300 kg each), the trainee was to be assisted by members of the deck crew in removing and handling the individual steel plate. However, these initially had other tasks to perform.

A crewmember, who went to the steering gear room for a technical check, discovered the trainee there, who was trapped and unconscious between the overturned (and previously released) stack of plates and a shelf mounted on the ship's side.

Despite immediately initiated rescue measures (alerting the crew, freeing the accident victim from his predicament, resuscitation measures by the ship's crew, medical treatment by the emergency physician called for help), the accident victim did not regain consciousness and died about 30 minutes after he had been discovered on board the ship.

The investigation into the accident has largely been completed and the BSU is currently in the process of compiling the investigation report. Because the one-year deadline for publication, set by the European Union and adopted as national law by the Federal Republic of Germany, cannot be met, the public is informed about the status of the investigations into this very serious marine casualty by means of the publication of an interim investigation report.

All investigation reports, safety recommendations as well as other publications of the BSU are available for download at

[https://www.bsu-bund.de/EN/Publications/Unfallberichte/Unfallberichte\\_node.html](https://www.bsu-bund.de/EN/Publications/Unfallberichte/Unfallberichte_node.html)

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