



Accident, incident, and mishap notification

April 2017



What's in this summary

The following text summarises the notifications of accidents, incidents and mishaps that have been made to Maritime New Zealand in accordance with Section 31 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994 and which have been recorded in our database in the last month (1-30 April 2017).

These summaries are provided for information purposes only, and are not intended to be, and should not be construed as, evidence of any determination by Maritime New Zealand as to accuracy, cause, or liability. For these reasons the information is not suitable for statistical or analytical purposes.

The summaries are not verbatim copies of the original notification. In constructing the summaries, consideration has been given to the reasons to withhold information provided in the Official Information Act. This may result in some information not being included.

If an accident, incident or mishap is notified to Maritime New Zealand more than once, it is only reflected once in the report.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (NZISM)
Category:	Passenger / Vehicular Ferry
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel lost propulsion on the starboard shaft due to an electronic communication fault. It was reset with the shaft providing power soon after.

Person overboard

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Passengers had earlier been instructed to remain inside the rails at all times. After the vessel departed for the return journey and had reached full operating speed the crew were alerted that a passenger had jumped off the top deck into the water. The vessel turned around, a spot light was used to search for the passenger, Coastguard were called to assist, and a mayday call was made. The passenger was sighted and lifted back on board the vessel where first aid was given.

Injury Only

Inshore waters, Taranaki

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other charter
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Person tripped on a sill going from the wheelhouse to the cockpit, falling to the deck and injuring their left shoulder. Sea conditions were a 1m swell with a 5kt wind. The injured person was moved to seating in the wheelhouse and immobilised inside a lifejacket. The vessel proceeded to port and was met by an ambulance. Patient found to have a dislocated shoulder.

Injury Only

In harbour, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Workboat
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	

Deckhand slipped while climbing into the cab of a deck crane and injured their left ankle, suspected to be a fracture.

Contact

At berth, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Tourism Activity
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

After refuelling the vessel and lining up for approach to berth a strong wind gust blew the vessel into another vessel, causing damage to the port side hull above the waterline.

Struck submerged object

Inshore waters, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other charter
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

While transiting from a cove the vessel struck a submerged object, damaging the transducer housing and propeller. Vessel proceeded to port to effect repairs. No injuries.

Person overboard

At berth, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel was berthed and secured with a forward spring line, a forward breast line, and with the main engine engaged in forward gear to reduce movement. Weather at the time was heavy rain and strong winds with movement on the pontoon. While disembarking an elderly passenger fell into the water. Two bystanders and the duty master pulled them from the water. No first aid or treatment was required.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Two wire runners parted while discharging cargo, resulting in the grab falling into the hold of the vessel. Cargo operations were suspended pending further instructions

Injury Only

At berth, Taranaki

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Reefer
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

A worker's leg was caught while loading cargo.

Injury Only

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other Fishing
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

A crew member got a tuna hook lodged in their eye while the vessel was trolling for tuna.

Equipment failure

At berth, Nelson

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Container Ship
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

A locking pin at the top of the ship's gangway came loose, releasing the collapsible handrails, and exposing the boarding stevedores to the unprotected edge. The crew rectified the issue.

Collision

Inshore waters, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Skipper was picking up three divers. Picked up first two divers with no issues and was attempting to pick up third diver, who came up without seeing the vessel. Clipped diver with the propeller and the boat dragged diver for about 10 seconds. Prop hit diver's head, cutting the goggles and regulator. Possibly unconscious for a bit, with injuries to the right hand, shoulder, and head.

Propulsion failure

Offshore waters,

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Main engine shut down twice in twenty minutes. The chief engineer reported the lubricating oil separator was at fault and needed to be repaired. Repairs were completed and normal operations began approximately sixteen hours after the first shut down.

Propulsion failure

At berth, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Charter Fishing
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Flywheel came loose on the shaft.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (NZISM)
Category:	Passenger / Vehicular Ferry
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Starboard shaft propulsion lost due to an electronic communication fault.

Injury Only

At berth, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Crew member working in the fish hold observed cartons were jammed on the conveyor. They jumped onto the conveyor to free the jam, but fell and injured their ankle.

Injury Only

At berth, Northland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

An elderly passenger fell and hit their head while disembarking the vessel.

Propulsion failure

Inshore waters, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other charter
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel experienced sudden overheating of the engine, requiring a shut down to avoid a possible fire. A fishing vessel took them under tow to the marina where Coastguard took over.

Equipment failure

At berth, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

When berthing the vessel the engine indicator on the port bridge wing failed to work when the engine was put astern. Crew gave confirmation from inside the wheelhouse.

Hit submerged Object

In harbour, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Passenger
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel struck a submerged object, possibly a tree log. One passenger fell off seat and bumped head - first aid offered but not required. The vessel was slowed, the hull was checked internally for damage, the engine and propeller for vibration, and the passengers for injuries.

Electrical power failure

Inshore waters, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Cargo (NZISM)
Category:	Oil Tanker
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel experienced a total loss of electrical power. The number one diesel generator had tripped out on "over speed". The two standby generators were started and connected, with power restored twenty seconds after the initial failure.

Oil spill

At berth, Waikato

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Workboat
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Fuel leak noticed when launching the vessel. Corrosion on the bolts in the hose clamps had led to the clamp failing and subsequent flexible hose failure. The clamp rubbing against the positive electrical bale had the potential for ignition of the fuel fumes.

Equipment failure

Inshore waters, Bay of Plenty

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Workboat
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Battery terminal melted. Terminals were found loose on the battery, causing the terminals to fuse.

Injury Only

At berth, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Barge
Category:	
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	

While splicing a tow line and driving a steel spike into the lay of the rope a chip of steel broke off the hammer face and into the arm of the worker. It caused heavy bleeding, and required surgery to remove the sliver of steel.

Collision

Inshore waters, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other Charter
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel motoring 100m from shore at an estimated 3-4kts struck an anchored zodiac. Damage was caused to the zodiac, which did not have anyone on board at the time. The motoring vessel's captain advised that the vessel does not have good visibility forward on the port side from the cockpit.

Explosion

At Berth, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other Charter
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

A battery was charging on the work bench and exploded, causing nearby paperwork and the surrounding area to catch fire. The alarm sounded and the fixed fire fighting system deployed. When the fire brigade arrived the fire was out but the engine room was full of smoke. Portable fans were used to remove the smoke.

Injury Only

Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

A crew member was evacuated from the vessel by helicopter after suffering serious chest injuries.

Injury Only

Offshore waters, Chatham Islands

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	<500t

Skipper required the warp to be put into the pickup block on the port quarter so the warp would not rub on the vessel due to the weather. A crew member was readying to put the pick-up block onto the warp when a sudden swell pushed the stern of the boat into the warp, causing it to flick over the aft quarter. This hit the crew member in the chest, knocking them to the deck, where their helmet fell off. The crew member stood up, then blacked out, stood up, but continued to feel dazed. They were taken to accommodation and checked regularly. They later blacked out again and continued to suffer discomfort so the vessel returned to port. Corrective action to include ensuring crew are wearing chin straps, a different position is used to stand when handling the pick up block, and the skipper should monitor the angle of the boat.

Person overboard

In harbour, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other Charter
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

A child fell overboard when they were temporarily left unattended. They were wearing a lifejacket and were recovered uninjured from the water two minutes after they fell in.

Electrical power failure

Inshore waters, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Passenger
Length (m):	<45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Generator governor failed and tripped. Vessel power requirements were too much for the single generator and the vessel blacked out.

Flooded

At berth, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Jet Boat
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel sank below the water line while at berth while unattended. Ropes were used to tie the boat to stop it sinking further, with divers later arriving and using airbags to refloat the vessel. Inspection found the boat had taken on water through a gap in the inspection hatch.

Near miss / Close quarters

At berth, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Operator was in a digger on top of logs on a hatch. The crane driver had just pulled the wires from a heave when two of the logs slid away. The operator extended the arm to retrieve the logs, but the grapple became stuck on a log. The logs under the digger started to slid and the operator was unable to release the grapple in time to stop the digger sliding into a gap between the logs. One track went over the side of the logs and the digger tipped into the hole between two rows.

Fire

Inshore waters, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other Charter
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

A spot light set fire to a seat cushion in the wheel house. The crew were alerted to the fire by a smoke alarm going off.

Person overboard

Inshore waters, Southland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Aquaculture
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Crew member harvesting mussels missed cutting a dropper as the vessel was being pulled away from the backbone. Another crew member was given a knife to cut the dropper, as they reached out they lost their balance and fell into the water. They were wearing a PFD at the time, and were recovered from the water by other crew members.

Extreme vessel movement

At berth, Hawkes Bay

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

When berthing the vessel due to swell and vessel movement the ship's line parted. The situation stabilised and the mooring operation continued.

Hit submerged Object

At berth, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Tug
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

After being let go from the ship the tug turned towards port to return to berth. Propeller vibration began after vessel came into contact with an underwater object. Divers confirmed small paint chips on the shroud, with no other damage.

Propulsion failure

In harbour, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Container Ship
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Bow thrust tripped twice on berthing while operating from the starboard bridge wing. Reset from the centre console.

Person overboard

At berth, Auckland

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Other charter
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

A guest on the boat slipped while boarding and fell overboard, hitting their head on the dock. They were initially unresponsive and taken to hospital for monitoring.

Extreme vessel movement

Inshore waters, Cook Strait

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel departed in calm seas with good weather forecast. The wind later picked up and moderate seas developed. A large wave hit the boat, throwing one of those on board across the wheelhouse, causing head injuries. The other person on board made them comfortable and continued to the nearest wharf to be met by an ambulance.

Injury Only

At berth, Otago

Vessel information	
Type:	Jet Boat (SOP)
Category:	Tourism Activity
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

A passenger climbing into the boat slipped and fell onto a passenger sitting in the boat. The sitting passenger's arm was injured, and they were taken to the medical centre for assessment.

Propulsion failure

A river, Canterbury

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel suddenly lost power, lost steering, and the current swept the vessel into the cliff face. The boat went up the cliff face enough for the current to swamp the rear of the vessel, with the adult and two children on board floating off the vessel. The adult grabbed a rock and pulled themselves onto it, the two children floated down stream and swam to shore. Another jet boat came up the river and picked all three up.

Mooring Line Failure

At berth, Wellington

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Vessel was backing into a berth using engines. The aft crew held onto a spring line, which broke under moderate tension. The line fell into the water without recoil.

Hit submerged Object

Inshore waters, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Research
Length (m):	<24m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel surveying in shallow water (5m to high tide mark) at 3kts struck a submerged rock. A crew member was calling out depths, but the rock came up very quickly. Only the depth sounder at the front of the vessel struck the rock, not the hull. The sounder was found to have a dent, and while the sounder is undamaged it is now at an angle and unserviceable.

Chemical or harmful substance spill

Offshore waters,

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Fishing (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Trawler
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

Engineer discovered an LFO leak off the starboard quarter of the vessel into the sea. The leak location was discovered to be a corrosion hole in the sea water drain pipe that penetrates through to the LFO starboard quarter tank. The leak was stopped by transferring the LFO into a different tank, with repairs to be made in port.

Lifting / Cargo gear failure

At berth, Marlborough

Vessel information	
Type:	Foreign SOLAS (ISM)
Category:	Bulk Carrier
Length (m):	>45m
Tonnage (tons):	>500t

A cranston plunger fell out of the cranston body as the crane operator was pulling the wires from a heave. The cranston fell and landed approximately one meter from the digger, approximately three metres from the digger operator in their cab.

Mooring Line Failure

A river, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	Recreational
Category:	
Length (m):	
Tonnage (tons):	

The raft was located at a swimming hole in the river, chained to a post. It broke away during a flood and was seen floating past a bridge.

Other

Inshore waters, Tasman

Vessel information	
Type:	NZ Non-passenger (SSM/MOSS)
Category:	Work Boat
Length (m):	<6m
Tonnage (tons):	

Vessel was anchored using the stern anchor, which doesn't have a pennant, just the rope warp. The vessel was found to have moved approximately 150m from its initial mooring point.