

To: Japan P&I Club

From: DIAS Marine Consultants, Odessa, Ukraine

Dear Sirs,

In our previous Notifications we have already informed about the cases when Ukrainian Customs advanced groundless high penalties in that cases when some undeclared subjects were found on board. We have already wrote about the case when customs officers found, for example an opened can of paint (at this period there were painting works on the board) or some other subjects (instruments) with the help of which some works are executed, imposed a fine USD 3,200. Customs continue to make sounding of bunker tanks with the purpose of revealing the discrepancy between the determined figures by them and the figures declared by Chief Engineer.

Last time we were asked for help due to fact of Custom`s attacking the vessel on 14th of September 2008. Somewhere in the heart of the vessel, customs officers revealed some aluminium pipes and wire of copper reel. As usually in such cases, regardless of in big or small quantities custom finds some spare parts, and also what is the value of these things (in our case valuable was minor), custom-house wanted to use the penalty to the maximum.

In light of the above-stated we would strongly recommend the Masters of the ships calling at the Ukrainian ports to ensure that the Chief Engineers perform thorough sounding of the bunker tanks in order to declare the correct quantity of bunker on board the ship and to avoid unnecessary fines.

Proper update is made on our web-site in section Problems.

Sincerely yours,

Igor Cherezov,  
Managing Partner

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