

JTSB Safety Recommendation to the Panama Maritime Authority

November 25, 2011

Car carrier “CYGNUS ACE”
Multi-purpose cargo ship “ORCHID PIA”
Collision
Occurred at eastward offshore Oshima on March 10, 2009

The accident was caused by the two vessels, CYGNUS ACE and ORCHID PIA, colliding with each other while proceeding on intersecting courses at eastward offshore Oshima at night.

In this accident, CYGNUS ACE did not maintain proper lookout for ORCHID PIA and attempted to avoid collision with ORCHID PIA by successions of small alterations of course to port using the autopilot, which constituted the cause of the collision.

In view of the result of this accident investigation, the Japan Transport Safety Board recommends the Panama Maritime Authority and RCL SHIP MANAGEMENT PTE LTD to implement the following measures:

The Panama Maritime Authority should direct RCL SHIP MANAGEMENT PTE LTD to instruct the masters and crew members under its management to comply with the provisions of “the Safety Management Manual” established in accordance with the International Safety Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention.

RCL SHIP MANAGEMENT PTE LTD should make sure to instruct the masters and crew members under its management to operate vessels strictly in accordance with “the Safety Management Manual.”