April 25, 2014

Cargo ship "SCSC WEALTH"
Fatality of a stevedore
Occurred at Public Wharf, Hibi Port, Tamano City, Okayama Prefecture
About 255° true, 1,450m from the Inumodorihana Light Beacon located
in Tamano City, Japan
on May 10, 2011.

It is probable that this accident occurred as follows: Five tween deck hatch covers were stacked up on the bow side of the inner bottom plating in No.2 cargo hold during the loading of copper slag onto the SCSC WEALTH at the Public Wharf in Hibi Port; however, the safety bolts for the lowermost and second lowermost hatch covers were not inserted into the insertion holes in the inner hull plating. Due to this fact, the situation was such that it was impossible to prevent horizontal movement of the hatch covers. Furthermore, a driver entered No.2 cargo hold through the forward companionway to the inner bottom plating of No.2 cargo hold; therefore, when the driver was passing through the space between the hatch covers and the forward bulkhead, the hatch covers moved in the direction of the bow after being pushed by cargo, resulting in the driver being caught between the hatch covers and the forward bulkhead.

It is probable that the reason why it was impossible to prevent horizontal movement of the hatch covers is that they were not secured as specified in the hatch cover operating manual by the SCSC WEALTH.

Based on the above, in view of the results of this accident investigation, the Japan Transport Safety Board recommends SHANGHAI CSC Line Co., Ltd. as follows for the prevention of recurrence of similar accidents.

The company should provide instructions to crew members to ensure that they comply with the hatch cover operating manual and appropriate measures to prevent movement of opened hatch covers are taken.