

September 28, 2017

Marine Accident of Cargo ship “CITY” (grounding)
Occurred at near the Port of Sakata, Sakata City, Yamagata Prefecture, Japan
on January 10, 2016

It is probable that the accident occurred as a result of the course of events that the CITY had not appropriately obtained weather and sea information during her anchorage and that she missed the timing of evacuating to a safe water area because the master did not have a grasp of seaworthiness of the ship due to lack of descriptions about seaworthiness such limiting clutch force and limit wind speed in a ballasted condition and a limit of ship maneuvering for course keeping considering a wind pressure and output power of the main engine in the said condition in the safety management manual of Trans Ocean Shipping Co., Ltd. and thereby she became unable to maneuver despite an attempt to head out to sea.

It is probable that the reason why the CITY had not appropriately obtained weather and sea information is that the master thought there was no sign of worsening weather seeing weather and sea analysis charts and therefore had not obtained other weather information.

From these, in view of the result of this accident investigation, the Japan Transport Safety Board recommends Trans Ocean Shipping Co., Ltd. which is the vessel management company of the CITY to take the following measures for the purpose of prevention of the recurrence of similar casualties and etc.

- (1) Trans Ocean Shipping Co., Ltd. educates masters of the ships under control of the company about obtaining necessary weather information.
- (2) Trans Ocean Shipping Co., Ltd. describes information about limiting clutch force and limit wind speed in a ballasted condition and a limit of ship maneuvering for course keeping considering a wind pressure and output power of the main engine in the said condition in the safety management manual