Focus on: safety and loss prevention



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In its continuing commitment to safety at sea and the prevention of accidents, casualties and pollution, the club issues a variety of publications on safety-related subjects, which are available on the club's **website**

The club provides safety and loss prevention training to members through regional and memberspecific seminars, using case studies to illustrate what went wrong and what could have been done to avoid the incident. The loss prevention programme focuses on best practices to avert claims that are generally described as avoidable and that often result from crew error.

The club can also participate in members' own training programmes. Yves Vandenborn, Director of Loss Prevention, recently visited Pacific Basin in Dalian to speak about frequent claim causations.

Bulk carrier hatch cover maintenance

Hatch covers leak for a variety of reasons, but mainly because of poor maintenance or failure to operate them properly. Leaking or badly maintained hatch covers will lead to cargo wetness claims, but this can also lead to flooding of the cargo hold, with a subsequent loss of stability and possible foundering of the ship. It is crucial for the safety of the ship and The Standard Club is committed to assisting members in reducing the incidence of accidents and claims. This is achieved through a programme of ship condition surveys, management risk reviews, publications, presentations and training focused on topical subjects.

safe carriage of the cargo to properly maintain and operate the ship's hatch covers. The club recommends an emphasis on proactive maintenance and frequent crew training.

The Standard Club has published a Master's Guide to Hatch Cover Maintenance, which is available on the club's **website**.

Navigation and the human element

The importance of the human element in shipping has been emphasised for many years, and the Standard Club has supported various initiatives such as the Human Element book and accompanying DVD in collaboration with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. The club has recently been focusing on navigation and the importance of the human element in collision avoidance. Poor bridge team management and insufficient training are often cited as the cause of incidents. Proper training and management are crucial avoidance measures.

For further information on these issues or to enquire about having a member of the Loss Prevention team visit your offices, please speak to your usual club contact.

