

Cruiseship hits rocks in Antarctica and damages propeller

26.12.2009 The 4,100-gt *Clelia II* (built 1990) damaged its starboard propeller at the landing cove at Petermann Island on the Antarctic peninsula said IAATO. The ship was preparing for a passenger landing on a calm day when the accident occurred, but a strong current pushed the ship toward the island, where it struck rocks. The vessel lost electrical power, whilst carrying 65 passengers and 65 crew. The passenger landing took place as planned and power was restored 90 minutes after the incident but the operator, Travel Dynamics International of New York, has had to cancel several cruises while repairs are carried out.

100 Icebergs approached New Zealand's South Island

25.11.2009 New Zealand's maritime authority warned ships to be on the lookout for large floating ice masses reported to be within 200 miles of the coast.

Volgo-Balt Grounding - Russian general cargoship refloated

15.5.09 The 2,500-gt *Omskiy-141* (built 1989) was heading from Cherepovetsk to St Petersburg when it was pushed aground by ice and wind in the Volgo-Balt channel, the Cargo Law website reported. The ship was refloated with the assistance of tug MB-1212 and no pollution was reported.

Bear Island Salvage

Reefer *Petrozavodsk* ran aground Bear Island 11.5.2009. Salvors removed bunkers and pollutants.

Antarctic Cruise Ship Trouble

16.2.09 The *Ocean Nova* (2,183 gt built 1992) became stuck near the McClary Glacier about one mile from an Argentine supply base whilst carrying 105 passengers and crew. It was unclear whether the ship was trapped by ice or was grounded by low tide, but it was thought it might be able to free itself on a rising tide. A Spanish oceanographic ship, the *Hesperides*, was sent to lend assistance, and was expected to reach the *Ocean Nova* within a day. The *Ocean Nova* is the latest in a series of incidents (including the *Explorer* and *Ushuaia* below) related to the surge in tourist visits to the region. Antarctic cruises attracted some 46,000 people last season, according to the Association of Antarctic Tour Operators.

Other ice area casualties

26.1.09 Double stranding in ice on the St. Lawrence. Dense ice and freezing temperatures prevented attempts made by a coastguard ice-breaker to reach the two stranded ships. Three hundred people were stranded onboard the 1,630-passenger ferry *C.T.M.A. Vacancier* near Matane in Quebec when the ship was surrounded by ice on Monday 26th January.

The Canadian flagged 3,708-dwt ro-ro *Georges Alexandre Lebel* (built 1975) became stuck on Sunday 25th. The Canadian Coastguard 2,113-dwt tug *Terry Fox* has been unable to reach the ships to provide assistance. Another ferry, the 600-passenger *Camille Marcoux* (built 1974) also got into difficulty on the ice on Monday but managed to make it safely to port later that day.

Supply ship *Monarch* sank 15.1.09 against Chevron's Granite Point platform in Cook Inlet (45m southwest of Anchorage) having been pinned there by sea ice.

General cargo ship *Cap Blanc* sank off Newfoundland, 10.12.08, all 4 crew lost.

Cruiseship *Ushuaia* (1,907 gt built 1970) grounded in Chilean Antarctica 3.12.08, carrying 122 people.

Bulker *Antarios Breeze* suffered storm damage off Greenland 29.10.08.

Cruiseship *Explorer* (2,398 gt built 1969) hit an iceberg, holed and sank off South Shetlands 23.11.07, all 154 aboard saved in weather window.