

SYNOPSIS

The incident was notified to the Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) on 11 February 1999. An investigation started on 3 March 1999.

The bulk carrier *Elm* and the fishing vessel *Suzanne* were involved in a near miss incident in position 50° 07' N, 004° 05' W.

Elm was on passage from Belfast to Teignmouth. *Suzanne* was engaged in trawling.

The immediate cause of the “near miss” was that the bridge watch on board *Elm* failed to detect that their ship was on or nearly on a collision course with another vessel.

A contributory cause was the failure of the night lookout and the master to maintain a proper look-out in accordance with the *International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972*.

There are no recommendations.