

## **MAIB SAFETY BULLETIN 1/2010**

Safety critical stability issues identified  
on board the beam scallop dredger *Olivia Jean*

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This document, containing safety lessons, has been produced for marine safety purposes only, on the basis of information available to date.

*The Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2005* provide for the Chief Inspector of Marine Accidents to make recommendations at any time during the course of an investigation if, in his opinion, it is necessary or desirable to do so.

Stephen Meyer  
Chief Inspector of Marine Accidents

### NOTE

This bulletin is not written with litigation in mind and, pursuant to Regulation 13(9) of the Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting and Investigation) Regulations 2005, shall not be admissible in any judicial proceedings whose purpose, or one of whose purposes, is to apportion liability or blame.

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Press Enquiries: 020 7944 3231/3387; Out of hours: 020 7944 4292  
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## BACKGROUND

During an ongoing investigation, the MAIB has identified major concerns with the operational stability of the 33.86m scallop dredger *Olivia Jean*.

The MAIB believes that the vessel should not undertake any further fishing operations until its safe operation can be ensured.

Without a full audit of the inherent stability of the vessel and its operating procedures, the MAIB has identified:

1. Significant structural and equipment modifications made since the current stability book was issued in 2007 have resulted in the failure of the vessel to meet required stability criteria
2. The current safety restriction of 14 dredges per side is not being observed. The vessel is currently operating with 18 dredges per side
3. The maximum catch restriction of 20 tonnes is known to be routinely exceeded by factors in excess of 100%.

Additionally, *Olivia Jean* is operating with a crew considerably in excess of the authorised number.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**2010/S101** **Olivia Jean Ltd** is recommended to:

- Take immediate action to cease operations of the scallop dredger *Olivia Jean* (TN 35) until all necessary actions have been completed to ensure the safe operation of the vessel
- Commission a full stability assessment of the vessel to reflect its current condition
- Ensure that all operational limitations required for the safe operation of the vessel are strictly adhered to.

**2010/S102** The **Maritime and Coastguard Agency** is recommended to:

- Ensure that the stability of *Olivia Jean* (TN35) is verified and all safety critical limitations are applied before allowing further fishing operations to take place

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