



COLLISIONS

HFW has advised on many major collision incidents in recent years and has access to the latest technology to assist with investigating potential navigational or mechanical faults with a view to establishing liability.

HFW deal with all issues which may arise out of a collision including navigational fault, limitation of liability, jurisdictional disputes, pollution, intervention by the authorities, salvage, wreck removal and third party claims. HFW also has quantum experts to assist with quantifying and recovering claims following a collision.

Our global network of casualty investigators means that we can respond to collisions and get on location practically anywhere in the world within 24 hours. Our team aims to be onboard before any local authorities, other interested parties or the media are involved. Our mariners have extensive seagoing experience across a range of vessels and have an in depth knowledge of modern vessel systems.

Recent work

- “SANCHI” c/w “CF CRYSTAL” (2018) – Collision in the East China Sea resulting in the sinking of a fully laden tanker and loss of life. Advising on all issues arising out of the collision including intership liabilities, cargo claims, LOF salvage, pollution, jurisdiction, limitation of liability, cargo and wreck removal issues.
- “AL ORAIQ” c/w “FLINTERSTAR” – Collision between a fully laden LNG carrier and a general cargo vessel off Antwerp. This collision resulted in the total loss and wreck removal of “FLINTERSTAR” and large claims between the parties and from the Belgian authorities.

- “CHARLTON” c/w “RICH FUTURE” (2016) – Collision in the River Plate resulting in substantial damage to both vessels, with “CHARLTON” requiring extensive salvage services and transhipment of her entire cargo.
- “DAWN KANCHIPURAM” c/w “BW MAPLE” (2016) – Collision off India resulting in widespread pollution. Advising on collision liability, limitation of liability, third party claims and collision quantum.
- “APL DENVER” c/w “WAN HAI 301” – Collision off Malaysia resulting in cross-border pollution. Investigating liability and dealing with the release of the vessel from detention in Malaysia. Advising on salvage, pollution claims, jurisdictional issues, intership liability and quantum of claims.
- “BALTIC ACE” c/w “CORVUS J” – Collision in the English Channel resulting in the sinking of a loaded car carrier and loss of life. Litigating issues relating to forum shopping for claims arising and wreck liabilities.
- “WESTERN REGENT” – Collision by a seismic research vessel with a well-head marker buoy in the North Sea. This collision matter resulted in the leading judgment which confirmed that a shipowners’ right to invoke limitation under the LLMC 1976 is not restricted to jurisdictions in which claims are brought.

What our clients say about us

ONE CLIENT DESCRIBES THE TEAM AS “VERY PROFESSIONAL, HIGHLY ACCESSIBLE AND IMPRESSIVELY EFFICIENT.”

CHAMBERS, UK-WIDE: SHIPPING, 2020

