



SALVAGE AND WRECK REMOVAL

HFW are the world's leading experts in advising on salvage and wreck removal operations.

Many shipping casualties require recovery of the vessel and/or cargo and bunkers and HFW's global team are on hand to provide around the clock assistance and advice to professional salvors, shipowners, cargo owners, hull and machinery underwriters and P&I insurers.

Recent work

- **SANCHI (2018)** – We have been advising the Owners and P&I insurers on salvage of the “SANCHI”, an Iranian-managed oil tanker which collided “CF CRYSTAL” in January 2018. Both vessels caught fire and whilst the crew of the “CF CRYSTAL” managed to abandon safely, the “SANCHI” became engulfed in flames minutes after impact resulting in the tragic loss of all 32 crew members. Despite fire fighting efforts, the vessel sank eight days after the incident occurred on 14 January 2018. HFW have advised on salvage, pollution liabilities, bunker removal and wreck monitoring and the complex jurisdictional issues which arise on a major casualty of this type.
- **MAERSK HONAM (2018)** – In March 2018 the “MAERSK HONAM”, an ultra large container ship (“ULCC”), suffered a cargo fire and subsequent explosions while transiting the Arabian Sea. Tragically 5 members of the crew of 27 were killed. HFW were instructed by the Contractors under the LOF salvage contract and have advised on salvage and management of the complex logistical challenges of arranging security for cargo, plus extensive contractual support for the post-LOF work, which involves removal of debris and management and processing of waste and hazardous cargo.
- **KEA TRADER (2017)** – HFW were instructed by the Owners, hull and machinery underwriters and P&I insurers following the grounding and subsequent total loss of this container vessel in New Caledonia in July 2017. We advised on salvage and wreck removal liabilities and provided extensive contractual support during the course of tendering for wreck removal. Our work in overseeing the contractual management of the contract is ongoing.
- **BURGOS (2016)** – This Mexican owned tanker suffered an explosion and fire of Vera Cruz, Mexico in October 2016. HFW were immediately instructed by the Owners, and advised on salvage, pollution and emergency response and assisted in management of all the ensuing claims.
- **MAERSK SEOUL (2015)** – The container vessel “MAERSK SEOUL” suffered an explosion and fire whilst off the coast of Oman on 21 July 2015. HFW were instructed by the Owners, hull and machinery underwriters and P&I insurers and advised on salvage, General Average and liability issues.
- **PERRO NEGRO 6 (2013)** – The jack-up drilling rig, “PERRO NEGRO 6”, suffered a “punch through” and capsized off the coast of Angola in late 2013. HFW advised and assisted the wreck removal contractors with the tender process, preparation of the wreck removal contract and subsequent variation orders and litigation.

- SMART (2013) – The 151,000 dwt bulk carrier “SMART” ran aground along the east coast of South Africa near Richards Bay in August 2013. The ship broke into two pieces and HFW advised the Owners, hull and machinery underwriters and P&I insurers on the casualty generally, management of salvage and wreck removal contracts.
- COSTA CONCORDIA (2012) – On Friday 13 January 2012, the “COSTA CONCORDIA”, a Concordia-class cruise ship of over 114,000 GT, ran aground and partially sank on the western coast of Italy just off the shore of Isola del Giglio. HFW were instructed by the Italian and Dutch contractors who were initially appointed to respond to the casualty and remove the bunkers and other pollutants. HFW provided casualty management and contract support and drafted the various contracts that were entered into.
- MSC CHITRA (2010) – HFW were instructed by the LOF Contractors in relation to the salvage and subsequent wreck removal of the “MSC CHITRA”, a container vessel that suffered a collision and sank at Mumbai, India on 10 August 2010. HFW advised on salvage, wreck removal and eventual disposal of the casualty and drafted and managed all the contracts, advising on complex jurisdictional issues.