

SIGAS CHAMPION INCIDENT LEAVING ST SAMPSON'S HARBOUR 05/12/2009

At 20:24 hrs on Saturday 5th December 2009 the Sigas Champion, with a pilot onboard, cleared berth 2 South at the harbour of St Sampson's for departure to sea. The weather at the time was Wind SSW 18 – 28 knots with overcast sky and slight drizzle/rain.

During the transit of the pier heads the vessel made light contact with the Northern pier head causing cosmetic damage only to the port quarter of the vessel and no damage to the pier head.

As required by law both the pilot and the vessel's master submitted written reports to Guernsey Harbours and the vessel Managers, V. Ships Cyprus Ltd.

In incidents such as these the purpose of analysis of the incident and associated reports is not to attribute blame but more properly to identify weaknesses within the system and recommend procedures that will, when implemented, greatly reduce the risk of a re-occurrence of similar incidents.

As a consequence of the reports the managing company's Operations and Vetting manager interviewed the master and submitted his findings in a final report which was copied to Guernsey Harbours.

The final report conclusions and recommendations concurred with those of Guernsey Harbour management.

It was not deemed necessary for further investigation of the incident.