

Flag State of Gibraltar


## **SHK assessment of response from the flag state Gibraltar (SHK report RS 2013:01)**

---

The 26 June 2013 the Swedish Accident Investigation Authority (Statens haverikommission – SHK) published the report RS 2013:01 about a cargo shift on board M/V Phantom. In the report SHK issued a safety recommendation to the flag state Gibraltar. Gibraltar was recommended to improve the review and approval process of Cargo Securing Manuals so that the instructions in the manuals can be used by the crews on board the vessels.

Gibraltar responded to the safety recommendation by an e-mail the 30 June 2014. In the e-mail Gibraltar briefly stated that the task of approving cargo handling manuals has been delegated to class societies and that the compliance of the class societies is audited by the flag state in conjunction with the UK MCA.

SHK would like to stress that even if the approval of cargo handling manuals has been delegated, the responsibility still rests with the flag state. The task of the class societies is regulated in memorandum of understanding or other form of contracts. Those acts can be amended. However, it is clear from the response that the flag state does not intend to take any action. SHK closes the file and finds the recommendation not to have been adequately addressed. (Closed – non satisfactory response)

  
Jonas Bäckstrand  
Chairman of investigation