



Marine Safety Forum – Safety Flash 09/07

Issued: 1st April 2009

Subject: H2S – Safety Learning

Summary:

A vessel containing contaminated slops was returned to shore for disposal, during the trip the crew detected H2S from the cargo which resulted in a number of additional trips to find a method for disposal and the increased risk to the crew and disposal staff.

Operators and vessel crews are reminded that the NWEA Guidelines identify the creation of H2S in slops and gives advice on prevention of H2S generation and its disposal.

The following points should be reiterated to staff:

- Waste should be discharged as soon as possible, if waste is being stored onboard for an extended period (more than one week) then this should be reported to the operator and originating installation.
- All crew must be made aware of the hazards presented by H2S through safety meetings and tool box talks.
- All installations/rigs must complete the agreed analysis and hazard documentation to the vessel before offloading to the vessel commences. Vessels are expected to refuse to take slops until the documentation has been supplied.
- On no account should slops be commingled with other oil or water/slops.

All details can be found in the Guidelines for the Safe Management of Offshore Supply and Anchor Handling Operations (NW European Area) 2009.

