

Interim Report

VERY SERIOUS MARINE CASUALTY | 17 November 2023

The **Bahamas**
Maritime Authority

Commodore Goodwill v L'Ecume II

Collision resulting in the loss of three lives on 8 December 2022

The Bahamas conducts marine safety or other investigations on ships flying the flag of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas in accordance with the obligations set forth in International Conventions to which The Bahamas is a Party. In accordance with the IMO Casualty Investigation Code, mandated by the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Regulation XI-1/6, investigations have the objective of preventing marine casualties and marine incidents in the future and do not seek to apportion blame or determine liability.

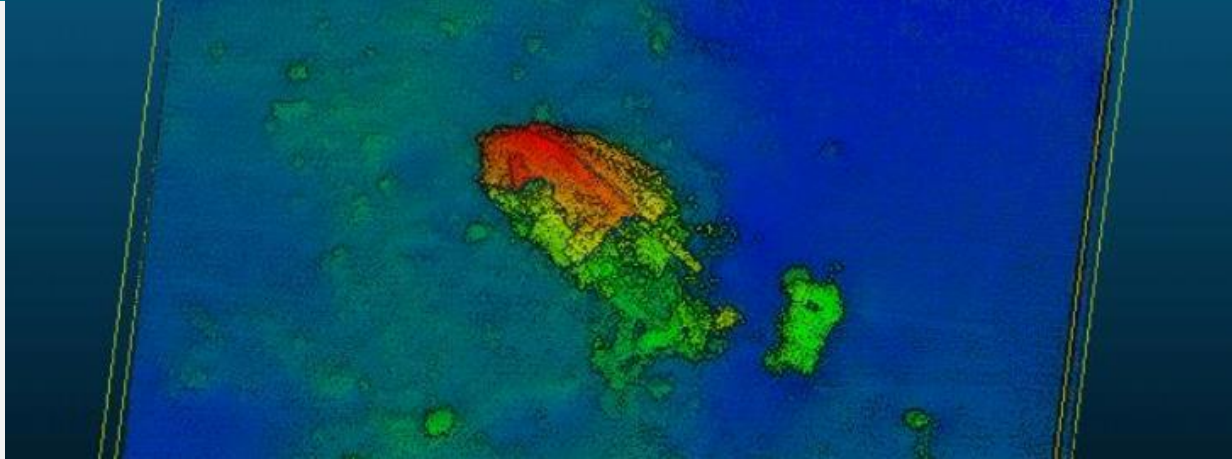
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Wreckage of L'Ecume II

The information contained in this interim report is based on the various aspects of the investigation completed to date. Readers are cautioned that there is the possibility new evidence may become available that might alter the circumstances as depicted in this report.

Factual Information

At around 05:35UTC on the morning of 8 December 2022, the Bahamas registered ro-ro cargo vessel, Commodore Goodwill, collided with the Jersey registered fishing vessel L'Ecume II in position 49°13.4'N 002°20'W.

L'Ecume II was lost with all three crew. Commodore Goodwill suffered no significant damage or injuries.

Investigation

The Bahamas Maritime Authority and Ports of Jersey, on behalf of the Minister for Economic Development Tourism Sport and Culture (the Minister), opened a joint marine safety investigation on the day of the sinking. The evidence collection phase of the investigation is complete, analysis is ongoing.

Ongoing Action

To comply with the requirements of Jersey Law, the joint investigation team will be unable to publish their marine safety investigation report until the Minister has been advised by the Law Officers Department; either that there will be no criminal prosecutions in relation to the incident or that any such proceedings, including any appeal, have been concluded. A final report will follow when circumstances allow.

Vessel particulars		
Vessel name	Commodore Goodwill	L'Ecume II
Vessel type	Ro-ro cargo	Fishing trawler (wooden hull)
Flag / IMO number	Bahamas / 9117985	Jersey (J158)
Registered owner	Condor Limited	IFISH4FISH Ltd.
Manager	Condor Marine Services Ltd.	N/A
Classification Society	Det Norske Veritas	N/A
Built	Vlissingen, 1996	Audierne, 1968
Length / breadth / moulded depth (m)	118.7 / 21 / 14.7	17.66 / 5.9 / 3.2
Gross / net tonnage	11,166 / 3,350	60.6 GT
Minimum safe manning	19	N/A

Voyage Particulars		
Departure port	St Peter Port, Guernsey	St Helier, Jersey
Arrival port	St Helier, Jersey	St Helier, Jersey
Distance / duration	27' / 2 hours	Up to five days
Cargo information	Ro-ro freight	N/A
Crew / passengers	23 crew / 3 passengers	3 crew

Marine Casualty Information		
Severity of casualty	Very serious marine casualty	
Date / time	8 December 2022 at 05:35UTC	
Geographical location	49°13.4'N 002°20'W	
Injuries / fatalities	None	3 fatalities
Damage / environmental impact	None	Total loss
Ship operation	Underway	Underway
Stage of passage	Approaching VTS limits	Departed VTS limits
External environment	Fresh breeze, low swell, clear skies, good visibility (darkness)	