

To: Concerned in Cargo / Containers

9th March 2018

“MAERSK HONAM” – General Average Declaration

On 7th March 2018, whilst the vessel was on passage from Singapore to Suez Canal and thereafter to a number of European ports, an explosion occurred and fire broke out on board. The crew were unable to extinguish the fire. Unfortunately one crew member is known to have died, and some other crew members are currently missing. Shipowners have requested assistance from salvors from Smit and Ardent under a Lloyds Open Form contract.

The above circumstances give rise to General Average. Shipowners have declared General Average (GA) and have appointed Richards Hogg Lindley to collect the necessary GA security. In accordance with the bill of lading terms and conditions under which cargo was shipped, cargo interests are required to provide GA security before the cargo can be delivered.

General Average security

Before cargo can be delivered, the following GA security must be provided (see attached for blank forms):

1. Copy of the **cargo invoice**,

and
2. An **Average Bond** completed and signed by owners of the cargo

and
3. either:
 - a. for insured cargo: An **Average Guarantee** completed and signed by insurers of the cargo (*This form should be completed and signed / stamped by the cargo insurance company, and should not be completed and signed by the cargo owners themselves*)

or
 - b. for uninsured cargo: Please inform the adjusters by email if the cargo is uninsured as a **cash deposit** will be required in place of an insurers' Average Guarantee. Adjusters will advise the amount of the cash deposit required and the details of the designated bank account (the cash deposit details will also be made available on our casualty website as soon as possible, website details as below)

Salvage Security

As mentioned above, Smit and Ardent have been appointed as salvors under a Lloyds Open Form contract. In addition to the GA security, salvage security will also be required. The details of salvors security requirements are not yet known, as services are still at a relatively early stage. Further details will be provided as soon as possible.

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The completed GA security documents should be sent by email to Richards Hogg Lindley:

	Parties based in Europe or Africa to contact:-	Parties based in all other locations to contact:-
Email:	info-liverpool@rhl-ct.com	singapore.ga@rhl-ct.com
Address:	Richards Hogg Lindley 4 th Floor, Royal Liver Building Liverpool L3 1JH United Kingdom	Richards Hogg Lindley 140 Cecil Street #15-00 PIL Building 069540 Singapore
Phone:	+44 (0)151 227 2175	+65 6506 2897/8

Please quote the ship name (MAERSK HONAM) plus your container number and bill of lading number in all email correspondence.

RHL Casualty Website

Blank security forms, further news and information including release procedures for cargo will be made available at: www.rhlg.com/clients. Select the vessel's name (MAERSK HONAM) from the dropdown menu and enter the password which for this case is: XHNMK73

Delivery of Cargo

Cargo can only be released after acceptable General Average and salvage security has been lodged.

A list of containers for which acceptable security has been provided will be loaded onto our website.

Once acceptable security has been provided, please address any questions regarding delivery / forwarding arrangements to the relevant shipping line. Further details regarding the shipping lines plans for delivery of cargo may be added to our casualty website in due course.

Note regarding LCL / Groupage cargo

Freight forwarders should URGENTLY provide a full breakdown of any LCL / Groupage containers as soon as possible in order to readily identify all the individual shipments within the container. This breakdown should include house bill of lading numbers, cargo descriptions, cargo weights plus details of the shippers and receivers of the goods.

Please treat this as a matter of utmost urgency to avoid unnecessary delay: cargo cannot be released until the General Average and salvage security requirements have been met.