



The P&I Correspondent in Venezuela

Caracas, 07th February 2014

Venepandi´s Circular -007 – Potential shortages of pet coke during loading at Jose Terminal

We´ve noted an increase of shortages on shipments of Pet coke cargoes loaded at Jose Terminal because of the water content not taken into account during loading and by shore scales.

In order to maintain the Green delayed Petroleum coke suitable for loading (currently located at the yards of the port of Jose), the piles are sprayed with fresh water (either during storage and during the loading operation) to keep the temperature levels low and to prevent auto ignition.

However, you may note that the terminal measures to determine the amount of cargo loaded (shore scales, and Draft survey conducted by Terminal´s officers) doesn´t take into account the weight of the water sprayed out for which we´ve noted that shortages that could go up to 400 MT are occurring to various shipments with the subsequent claims at disports.

You may also note that some water is separated from the petroleum coke filling the bilge tanks but the water quantity could not be determined because overload the mentioned tanks. In addition, the water coming from the coke to the bilge tanks cannot be wasted out to the sea given the contamination that this could cause with the subsequent fines to the vessel/owners.

Given the difficult position the above puts the ships on, our first recommendation will be to advice Masters about this situation in order to take any precautionary measure that could be taken on board and to appoint independent surveyors that could conduct draft surveys who could try to separate the water from the coke content and to claim against the terminal for the rest of the cargo in case a shortage is noticed.

Should you have any further question, please don´t hesitate on contacting us.

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