Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System U.S. Coast Guard



Press Release

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AMVER bulker assists in search for missing tug

NEW YORK – U.S. Coast Guard search and rescue authorities in Guam diverted the Amver participating bulk carrier Hebei Triumph after receiving a 406 MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) for a possible tug boat in distress 154 miles northeast of Palau on Wednesday, February 11, 2015.

Rescue personnel in Guam coordinated with rescue authorities in Singapore as the EPIRB was also indicating a distress position in the Singapore Straights near Batam Island. An Amver surface picture (SURPIC) was initiated and the Hong Kong flagged bulk carrier Hebei Triumph was located 30 miles from the Palau location. The captain of the 967-foot ship agreed to divert and search for any signs of distress.

Singapore rescue personnel were able to determine the EPIRB alert was accidental and notified Coast Guard officials in Guam. The Amver ship was released to continue on its voyage.

Amver, sponsored by the United States Coast Guard, is a voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea.

The Hebei Triumph, managed by North China Shipping Holdings Co., enrolled in Amver on July 15, 2012.

With Amver, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond. In an emergency, any rescue coordination center can request this data to determine the relative position of Amver ships near the distress location. On any day there are over 7,000 ships available to carry

out search and rescue services. Visit http://www.amver.com to learn more about this unique worldwide search and rescue system.

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