Chemical screening proves its worth

Having been made aware of the benefits of our chemical screening programme by the Managing Director of a Lintec client, a Hamburg based ship owner placed their vessels on Lintec's fuel analysis programme.

Prior to the company accepting Lintec's offer (Autumn 2009) there was some discussion regarding the value of Lintec's chemical screening programme, given the relative low cost per sample screened.
Never the less, the whole fleet was placed with Lintec and all enrolled on the chemical screening programme.

Any doubts regarding the value of chemical screening were dispelled within weeks when bunkered fuel containing DCPD and Styrene was identified using Lintec's chemical screening technique and reported to the client.

The vessel concerned was under charter to a large shipping company which was made aware of the findings of the Lintec report.

The two companies then entered into discussions and it was agreed that Lintec's advice – that the fuel be used with caution and if any operational difficulties were encountered then the use of the fuel should cease – be followed.

After operating on this fuel for seven days the vessel began to encounter operational difficulties, including blocked fuel filters – as can be seen in the photograph here.

At the next scheduled port of call, and with minimum disruption, the charterer arranged for the fuel to be debunkered and replaced with a new fuel stem.

Further analysis was undertaken in order to determine the exact levels of contamination, following which charterer accepted liability for all costs.

Needless to say, the Hamburg ship owner continues to use our analysis service and, of course, our chemical screening programme.

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