

OLSEN & UGELSTAD

SHIP OWNERS



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OSLO, 24th January 1950.

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Messrs. Lloyd's Register of Shipping,
The Secretary,
71, Fenchurch Street,
London E.C. 3.

Dear Sirs,

M/t "HAUKEFJELL" & M/t "SIREFJELL".

As you will have been informed the above mentioned two vessels have recently been compelled to renew all the electrical wiring in spite of the fact that the wiring was newly fitted.

In this connection we beg to draw your attention to the following facts:-

On the m/t "HAUKEFJELL" the steam engines were taken out and diesel engines installed. This work took place during the time from 13th June to 9th September and was carried out by Howaldtswerke A/G, Kiel. Simultaneously with this work all electrical wiring in the engine room of the ship was renewed.

The m/t "SIREFJELL", which had been damaged during the War, had a new foreship built at the same yard, and among the work carried out the electrical wiring was completed renewed throughout the whole ship. The ship was ready for sea on the 16th August last year. All the work was carried out under the supervision of your Surveyor at Kiel.

On the first voyage after m/t "SIREFJELL" had been repaired in Kiel, the ship had serious difficulties with the electrical wiring. Several short circuits occurred during this voyage and the ship was seriously exposed to the danger of fire.

Repairs to the electrical wiring had therefore to be carried out at Gothenburg, and during these repairs it was discovered by Lloyd's surveyor in Gothenburg that all electrical wiring used at Kiel were not according to your rules. Lloyd's surveyor at Gothenburg therefore ordered the renewal of almost all the wiring in the vessel.

Lloyd's Register
Foundation

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OSLO 24th January 1950.

Messrs. Howaldtswerke A/G asked us to take the m/t "HAUKFJELL" to Kiel as soon as possible. Upon arrival here on November the 5th a survey was arranged, and the surveyor ascertained that all the cables in this vessel, fitted in Kiel, were not in conformity with your rules.

The refitting of the new electrical cables on both these vessels caused a very heavy loss of time and will be rather expensive for us. We have claimed Messrs. Howaldtswerke A/G to refund our outlays consisting of our expenses for the repairs, loss of time, consumption of bunkers, cost of deviation etc. The re-wiring of the engine room of the m/t "HAUKFJELL" was effected at Kiel and the expenses carried by the Yard. The Howaldtswerke have only agreed to accept a certain part of our expenses and express as their opinion that the Yard in principle is not responsible for consequential damage and loss of time.

We have therefore left the matter in the hands of our Club, the Northern Shipowners' Association, Oslo, who at present are investigating the position under the German Law.

We intend to take legal steps against the Yard if this is deemed necessary, and in order to show you the nature and extent of our claim we enclose copy of our letter to the Yard with enclosure, dated 19th instant.

We fail to understand how such a thing can happen, and we are of the opinion that the Siemens' people, who have supplied the cables, have not given you the proper designations of the specifications of the cables which we understand that you have approved in London. We take that if you had been given correct information regarding the cables used, Lloyd's would ever have approved them?

Please inform us if you can confirm this opinion and if you are willing to send us verified copies of the wiring diagram you have received for approval. It is of the utmost importance for us to be able to substantiate our claims, and we think that you also consider it very important to get to the bottom of this case so that we shall know where and how the mistakes were made. We shall be very thankful if you would give us your support in regard to this matter and send us ~~the~~ complete information as possible.

We have dealt with your honourable society for more than 30 years, and are therefore very interested in getting this case cleared up so that our confidence in your Institution also will prevail unimpaired in the future.

Anticipating to hear from you as soon as possible, remain, Dear Sirs,

Encl.

Yours truly,

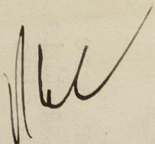
Olsen & Ugelstad

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Referred to the Chief Engineer Surveyor.



also for Mr. Perris to note.

REQUESTING EARLY REPLY.

P.S. Representatives from the Yard will arrive at Oslo in about 14 days to discuss the position, and we should very much appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible together with the documents with which you may be able to supply us. Thanking you beforehand, we remain

Yours faithfully,

