



Tuesday, 09. February 2010

Weather and Ice Report

This winter certainly outperforms the weather situation of the last few years in terms of strength, coldness and ice. The extra-ordinary winter conditions impose various challenges for the vessel operations at sea and in the ports on masters, crews and vessel planning departments.

Poland:

The port of Szczecin can currently only be reached per convoy.

Gulf of Riga:

Close hummocks in the Northern bay make fairway passages only possible with the help of icebreakers.

Gulf of Finland:

Close hummocks with heights up to 10 m lead to a difficult circumstances for entering the ports. Several ships and even ice-breakers already got stuck in ice fields. All Finnish ports suffer from pack-and fast-ice.

Southern winds still support that ice fields are piled up and consequently advance the formation of hummocks which are severe obstacles even to ice-breakers.

Besides common operational problems which are arising from the ice situation, delays are possible as sailing by night time strongly increases the threat of getting stuck in the ice. Despite floodlights, wind and snow are strongly limiting visibility.

Therefore, please take into account that delays might occur within the next few days for the vessels operating in the areas concerned.

However, please be reassured that Team Lines is doing its utmost to curtail the consequences of the current winter conditions on our operations and schedules in the best possible way.

For the latest vessel updates we kindly refer to our operational schedule which is daily published on our website (www.teamlines.de).

For questions and further information please kindly contact our local colleagues.