

## Marine Safety Forum – Safety Flash 10/27

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### Subject: Engine Failure & Fire Inside

During a routine cargo operation a Platform Supply Vessel suffered a sudden engine failure whilst set up alongside the platform in DP. Due to severe mechanical failure on one engine, the connecting rod was thrown through the engine casing causing hot oil spray and a subsequent fire.

The vessel had been fitted with a fixed water mist fire fighting system at a recent dry-dock. This system activated and extinguished the fire in a very short space of time. Reports from the Chief Engineer indicated almost no fire damage in anything but the immediate area of the fire and no damage to any equipment from the water mist.

Despite the serious nature of this incident the risk to the platform was minimal due to the following:

- Quick/decisive reaction by vessel crew
- Correct execution and adherence of procedures
- Full manoeuvrability/DP capability maintained through the 3 remaining engines
- Vessel set up in a drift off position relative to the platform
- Fire extinguished very quickly by water mist system

