



## USE CASE

### USE CASE: SHORT NOTICE REQUEST TO ASCERTAIN LOCATION OF A DRIFTING VESSEL

On 25 October 2017, the La Réunion Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC)<sup>1</sup> began a search and rescue operation to rescue 17 crew members aboard the 24 metre, 91 gt fishing vessel Ming Maan Shyang 18, flagged to Taiwan, which had suffered fire damage. At 05:00 local time Taipei MRCC alerted La Réunion MRCC of the incident and asked them to provide assistance to the vessel which was in distress 320 nautical miles south of La Réunion island.

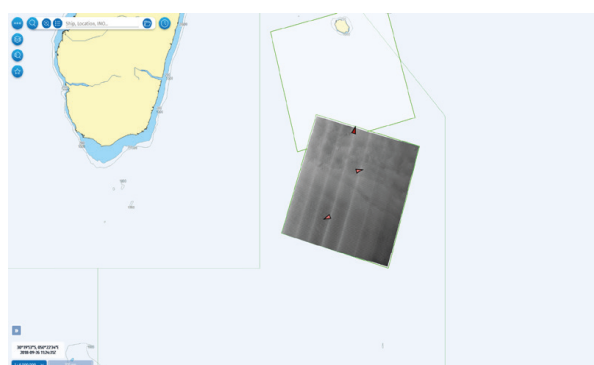
A fishing vessel was diverted and managed to rescue 15 crew who had escaped to life rafts, and to transfer them to Mauritius Island; one seriously injured seaman required an emergency medical evacuation. However, on 26 October it was confirmed by the master of Ming Maan Shyang 18 that two crew had been trapped in the engine room by fire, unable to escape. A safety message was sent to alert all ships in the vicinity, reporting the last position of the Ming Maan Shyang 18 and providing drift forecasting.

La Réunion MRCC wanted to provide the possibility to Taiwanese authorities to deviate a vessel to tow the stricken ship with two deceased seamen, and in addition it was feared that the drifting vessel could be a danger to safety of navigation in the area. On 29 October La Réunion MRCC sent a short-notice request for the activation of CMS, requesting synthetic aperture radar (SAR) imagery to try and locate the drifting wreck. The first image was delivered on 1 November 2017 (see right).

On 4 November the wreck of the vessel was identified by a merchant vessel, the M/V STI OCHARD, and the updated position was sent to the Taiwanese authorities.



Three days after the first satellite image was delivered, the wreck was identified by a merchant vessel



SAR imagery provided by CMS helped locate the drifting wreck

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### Get in touch for more information

#### Copernicus Maritime Surveillance

[Twitter CopernicusCMS](#) / [copernicus@emsa.europa.eu](mailto:copernicus@emsa.europa.eu)

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[Twitter CopernicusEU](#) / [Facebook Copernicus EU](#)

#### European Maritime Safety Agency

[emsa.europa.eu](http://emsa.europa.eu) / [Twitter EMSA\\_LISBON](#)

#### REFERENCES

<sup>1</sup> Centre Régional Opérationnel de Surveillance et de Sauvetage (CROSS, or MRCC) La Réunion is managed by French authorities as one of the Overseas Territories.

#### CREDITS

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