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Title: **Ship abandoned, one crew member missing and one killed after cargo vessel explosion**

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A container ship caught fire this weekend while en route from Charleston, SC to Antwerp, Belgium, killing one crew member, injuring three others and leaving another missing. The ship, MSC Flaminia, was abandoned in the mid-Atlantic after an explosion in a cargo hold on Saturday.

The ship still appears to be burning and is adrift about 1,000 miles off the coast of the United Kingdom. MSC Flaminia was built in 2001 and could carry a maximum of 6,750 TEUs.

The extent of the fire is not currently known, as salvage tugs are not expected to arrive at the scene until late Tuesday, but ships in the region have reported a large plume of smoke rising from the burning ship. The photo below shows the state of MSC Flaminia as of Monday morning:



It is currently unknown if MSC Flaminia will become a total loss or will be salvaged. Avalon offices have already received inquiries and will be processing the handling of any cargo claims accordingly. If your cargo was aboard this ship, please email claims@avalonrisk.com with the shipment information and attach the bill of lading.

If the vessel can be saved and consequently, if a General Average and/or General Salvage is declared, Avalon can assist our CTL policy holders in managing General Average Bond and Guarantees to meet the cargo owner's contribution and facilitate release of the cargo. In addition, for shipments covered by "All-Risk" Shipper's Interest Insurance, Avalon will work with you to obtain guarantees from underwriters.

For more information, please contact your local Avalon office or Andriana Davis at (847) 700-8087 or at adavis@avalonrisk.com. A list of our offices may be found at www.avalonrisk.com.

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