

A job well done



The extensive propeller blade damage



PANAMA PROPELLER REPAIR

Stone Marine Shipcare's propeller repair specialists completed another huge propeller repair project last month and demonstrated yet again how much their experience and professionalism counts.

The vessel involved, a 74000 DWT crude oil tanker, had suffered extensive propeller blade damage when, in bad weather, the vessel became entangled with a buoy.

During the initial examination the damage caused was obvious and it was going to require the replacement of two large tip sections and extensive leading edge weld build up. For various technical reasons it was recommended to the vessels owners that after repairs had been carried out the propeller should be placed into a temperature controlled furnace for a full propeller post weld heat treatment. A process which, our engineers advised, was necessary to ensure the propeller was returned to first class condition and could face the future with certainty.

The propeller was removed from the shaft with the vessel still afloat and transported to a workshop in Panama. A full propeller measurement survey was carried out to establish the magnitude of the bend damage plus a complete NDT package to ensure all linear defects were found and removed.

Replacement tip sections were 3D modelled and manufactured within one week of Stone Marine Shipcare being informed that the propeller was in need of repair and were flown out to Panama.

Bend damage was straightened using Stone Marine Shipcare's own propeller measuring equipment to establish the correct blade profile and pitch.



The blades and new tip sections were prep'd, positioned and welded into place following Class approved procedures. All work was completed within the timeframe required.



A furnace large enough to accommodate the 7.2 metre diameter propeller was designed in the UK and manufactured onsite. The heating elements and control electronics were flown out from the UK and the propeller was placed inside for a full heat treatment process.

After super polishing and balancing, the propeller was back in service well within the schedule.

Operations Director Mr Fran Johnson said. "As a company we have a heritage of almost 200 years and we know propellers. We know the ship owners and shipyards and we know how to bring it all together to get the job done. The four man team who attended in Panama have over 100 years of propeller repair experience between them and they have repaired over 700 large propellers.

We carry out these large repairs with confidence, knowing that in our long corporate history we've never had one of our repairs fail. This success is not just about knowing propellers; shipping is global and we are always ready to mobilise our team and equipment and work with all parties to co-ordinate manufacture, freight forwarding & Class Approval to bring a repair together."



For the Stone Marine Shipcare team this was another job done...
done very well!!