



ABS

AMERICAS DIVISION

Stability Letter

June 17, 2004

Person in Charge, SITKA PROVIDER, O.N. 1154540
 Gunderson Marine Hull 66, 360.0' x 100.0' x 22.0'
 Unmanned Deck Cargo Barge (I)

You are responsible for maintaining this barge in a satisfactory stability condition at all times and for following the instructions and precautions listed below. All log entries required by 46 CFR 97.35 shall be made prior to getting underway for each voyage.

A stability test witnessed by ABS Americas on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard, was conducted on the STIKINE PROVIDER, a sister barge to the SITKA PROVIDER, at Seattle, Washington, on 22 May, 2003. On the basis of that test and detailed weight calculations, stability calculations have been performed. Results indicate that the stability of the barge SITKA PROVIDER, as presently outfitted and equipped, is satisfactory for operation on Exposed Waters, provided that the following restrictions are observed.

OPERATING RESTRICTIONS

1. ROUTE: Operation on Exposed Waters is permitted for unmanned operations only.
2. FREEBOARD AND DRAFT: A maximum mean draft of 17 feet 1-1/2 inches is permitted. This corresponds to a minimum freeboard of 4 feet 11-1/4 inches from the main deck measured at amidships. Trim shall be minimized and shall not exceed 4 feet by the bow or the stern, as measured on the draft marks.
3. DECK CARGO: The height of cargo above the deck in any loading condition shall not exceed the following values:

<u>Mean Draft (ft.)</u>	<u>Maximum Allowable Cargo Height above Steel Deck</u>	<u>Maximum Allowable Cargo VCG above Steel Deck</u>
Up to 6.0	270'-10"	135'-5"
7.0	236'-7"	118'-3"
8.0	209'-3"	104'-7"
9.0	185'-0"	92'-6"
10.0	165'-9"	82'-10"
11.0	148'-10"	74'-5"
12.0	134'-2"	67'-1"
13.0	122'-2"	61'-1"
14.0	111'-5"	55'-8"
15.0	101'-5"	45'-10"
16.0	93'-2"	34'-10"
17.0	85'-6"	24'-7"
17'-1-1/2"	84'-7"	23'-4"



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The maximum VCG's for intermediate draft values may be interpolated, or use the maximum VCG for the higher draft.

4. HULL OPENINGS: Any openings that could allow water to enter into the hull shall be kept closed when underway.
5. TANKS: The two (2) ballast tanks and the aft centerline rake tank (deck drainage) may be simultaneously loaded at any level. Any cross connections between port and starboard tank pairs shall be kept closed at all times while underway.
6. WATERTIGHT BULKHEADS: No watertight bulkheads may be removed or altered without the authorization and supervision of the cognizant Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI).
7. WEIGHT CHANGES: This stability letter has been issued based upon the following light ship parameters:

Displacement:	3313.37	Long Tons
VCG:	15.01	Feet Above the Baseline
LCG:	178.45	Feet Aft of Frame 0

Any alteration resulting in a change in these parameters will invalidate this letter. No fixed ballast or other such weights may be added, removed, altered, and or relocated without the authorization and supervision of the cognizant OCMI. The barge is not fitted with permanent ballast.

8. BILGES: The vessel's bilges and voids shall be kept pumped to minimum content at all times consistent with pollution prevention requirements.
9. LIST: You should make every effort to determine the cause of any list of the vessel before taking corrective action.

This stability letter, along with the Load Line Certificate, shall be maintained in a suitable location onboard the barge. It supersedes any stability information previously issued to the barge.

Thomas M. Gruber
Principal Engineer
ABS Americas