



Nutech O3, Inc.

Dangers of Ballast Water Exchange

The Cougar Ace, a 654-foot Singapore flagged car carrier, sailed from Japan on July 22, 2006 with a load of 4,813 cars. The vessel was en route to two ports along the West Coast of Canada and the United States. The vessel encountered difficulty during a ballast exchange on July 24 about 230 miles south of the Aleutian Island chain in international waters. The vessel sustained a 60 degree list within a few minutes.

The Coast Guard Cutter Rush, a 378-foot cutter from Hawaii, was determined to be the closest Coast Guard asset. It was diverted immediately however, the Cougar Ace was still a 20 hour transit away. Coast Guard C-130s from Air Station Kodiak were the first on scene followed soon after by Coast Guard helicopters and Alaska Air National Guard helicopters with pararescue teams aboard. Upon arrival they hoisted the crew from the Cougar Ace. The crew was delivered safely to Adak and eventually returned to their homes in Asia.

Nutech's ozone based ballast water treatment system eliminates the need to perform these dangerous ballast water exchange operations.



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