

Floris Menting

Qualifications Master Mariner
Master's Certificate for Ocean Going Ships 1975
Higher Nautical Colleges Education at Amsterdam,
Rotterdam and Flushing
Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Master of Laws 1986
Special courses in English Contract Law
International Private Law and Thesis on Environmental
Law, MARPOL 1973-78

Languages Fluent in Dutch, English and German, with a working
knowledge of French

Date of Birth 1946

Nationality Dutch

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Current Position at CWA

In 1996 Floris Menting joined CWA as a Marine and Food Consultant. He was the Principal of the former CWA office at Alkmaar, the Netherlands. He is now an Associate Director of CWA International.

Floris Menting is a very experienced surveyor of loss and damage to ship's and cargo with a surveying career spanning 35 years. He has extensive experience of cargo incidents, particularly on dry cargoes and food commodities such as grains, rice, soya beans, oilseeds and their derivatives, sugar and refrigerated cargoes. He has investigated many scores of cargo damage incidents, providing expert advice on causation, loss mitigation and loss prevention. Much of his work on food cargoes has been in combination with the scientific skills provided by the CWA Food and Minerals Department. Floris has a thorough knowledge of the factors governing cargo care, including stowage, the water tightness of holds and condition of hatchway covers, ventilation, humidity and dewpoint measurements, and the operation of reefer systems. He also advises with regard to preventive fumigation and fumigation of infested cargoes. He is frequently called upon to supervise the taking of representative samples for analysis at selected laboratories.

Floris Menting is an experienced consulting Master Mariner and has carried out detailed investigations and reporting of marine casualties over a wide range of ship types and circumstances. This included the investigation of water ingress in bulk carriers on to the cargo via the hatchway covers and supervising hose tests and ultrasonic tests of hatchway covers.

He is well versed in the requirements of thorough reporting, has provided expert evidence in several court cases, and appeared in London courts and arbitration.

Specific Expertise and Experience at CWA

The following is a list of major damages to commodities that Floris has dealt with in the recent past:

- wheat, maize, soya beans and soya meal, sunflower seeds, rice, groundnuts etc – water ingress and cargo damage due to leaking hatchway covers or other leakages, sweat damage, moisture migration, heating, insect infestation and quality problems
- fruits including bananas and pears carried as refrigerated cargo – stowage, temperature and quality problems
- timber – moisture damage and insect infestation
- sugar – caking, water ingress and moisture damage
- fertilizers, urea – caking and admixture
- cocoa beans, seedcakes – water ingress, moisture migration and sweat damage, heating and fire, insect infestation and quality problems
- potatoes – moisture damage and decay
- rice – investigating the pre-loading condition of and preparation of bagged white rice, loaded at Vietnam (1997)

Floris Menting was also involved with and investigated various typical Marine cases, such as:

- fire on board
- groundings
- collisions, usually in conjunction with cargo damage

Summary of Previous Employment

1992-1996 Independent consultant dealing with a wide range of ships, cargo damage surveys and advisory services.

1986-1991 Partner in a firm of scientific and technical consultants on marine claims and casualties, dealing with cargo claims, investigating the extent and cause of the damage and/or advising clients in preparation of litigation with regard to current or historical claims on various products, such as:

- water ingress and cargo damage due to leaking hatchway covers or other leakages, sweat damage, moisture migration, heating and fire, admixture, insect infestation of many types of agricultural products.
- stowage of timber cargoes
- potatoes and onions carried as ventilated cargo
- vegetable oil contaminated with chemicals
- fertilizers, water ingress and admixture
- (direct reduced) iron ore
- sulphur etc

Floris Menting also dealt with damage prevention, and advised on carrying instructions, including ventilation or refrigeration for agricultural products and fresh fruit and preventing water ingress.

He dealt with cases whereby usually the entire cargo or the majority thereof, such as agricultural products or refrigerated cargoes (fresh fruit, bananas, chilled or frozen meat, chickens and/or fish) were subject to a cargo claim, either due to possible defects of the ship and/or hatchway covers or the reefer installation, heavy weather, fire or a submerged engine-room resulting in non-refrigeration, or the (pre) loading condition of the commodity.

Dealing with the cargo in way of discharge, including ship to ship transfer, assessment of damage and depreciation, finding other outlets for the cargo or the disposal thereof.

His work included in-depth investigation of the ship's equipment, as well as the maintenance of water tightness, the ventilation and the refrigeration. In some cases investigating the pre-loading particulars in the country of origin of a cargo or product was required, in order to fully investigate the possible cause of damage and the question of the liability.

The surveys were carried out world-wide including various African countries, the Middle East, the Far East and South America.

1976-1986

Nautical and cargo surveyor at Rotterdam, dealing with damage upon discharge and pre-loading surveys of ship's and/or the cargo, including numerous shipments of white refined bagged sugar exported via Rotterdam. Advising on a wide variety of casualties, investigating the extent and cause of the damage, involving various types of ships and other means of transport carrying dry, refrigerated, or liquid cargo. His work involved detailed investigation of the ship's management and if applicable the water tightness of the hatchway covers by visual inspection or with a hose test, the ventilation system and in case of refrigerated cargo the reefer installation.

1966-1976

Service onboard various types of ships, including those with heavy lift and reefer capacity, bulk carriers and tankers and general cargo vessels, trading world wide with a wide variety of cargoes such as general cargo, chilled and frozen cargoes, bagged and bulked cereals and derivatives, timber and timber products, crude oil and oil products, chemicals, vegetable oil etc, in the capacity of Apprentice Officer to acting Chief Officer.

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