

2011

# Rena Oil Spill

(Maritime New Zealand,  
2012: 14–15)

## Rena owners fined

26 October 2012

Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) has welcomed the guilty plea by Daina Shipping Co., the registered owner of the *Rena*, to a charge under the Resource Management Act relating to the discharge of harmful substances following the grounding of the ship in October 2011.

Daina Shipping was today fined \$300,000 in the Tauranga District Court on the charge.

"The guilty plea by the owners has led to this case being resolved in a timely fashion and that is welcomed," MNZ Director Keith Manch said.

"The completion of this prosecution marks another step in the response to the grounding of the *Rena*. There remains a lot of work to be done in the recovery process and MNZ continues to oversee the removal process."

Daina Shipping Co. was charged under sections 338(1B) and 15B of the Resource Management Act 1991, for being the owner of a ship from which harmful substances and/or contaminants were discharged into the coastal marine area.

The *Rena* was carrying a variety of materials defined under the Resource Management (Marine Pollution) Regulations 1998 as harmful substances or contaminants.

These include heavy fuel oil and other oils, and 32 containers of dangerous goods, including 40 tonnes of hydrogen peroxide, 23 tonnes of alkylsulphonic acid, 500 tonnes of ferro-silicon, 5.4 tonnes of trichloroisocyanuric acid, and 24 tonnes of potassium nitrate.

Other substances carried on board defined as harmful include bulk wine and operational waste. Items aboard classified as contaminants included animal pelts, dairy products, fabrics, cement and machinery parts.

A total of 121 containers of perishable foodstuffs were also on the *Rena*.

In May, the Master and Second Officer received sentences of seven months imprisonment following prosecutions as a result of the grounding. They have since been deported.

Resolve Fire and Salvage continue to work on the removal of the *Rena*, while Braemar Howells/Unimar are continuing to collect debris from the seabed and beaches in the area.

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