

MEMBER ALERT



Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Manager
One Battery Park Plaza 31st Fl., New York, NY 10004 USA
Tel: +1 212 847 4500
Fax: +1 212 847 4599

www.american-club.com

DECEMBER 1, 2010

INCREASED RISK OF GROUNDING AT BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA.

Your Managers have been informed by the Club's local correspondent at Barranquilla, Colombia that there is a heightened risk of grounding at that port.

This is due to recent heavy rains which have caused an excessive amount of sediment to accumulate in the channel by the Magdalena River. It is also reported that the local harbor authorities are apparently not undertaking sufficient dredging operations to remedy the problem and that areas of heavy silting have not been adequately identified by navigational marks. This has resulted in three vessels having run aground in the river, over the last month alone.

It is therefore very important that bridge watch-keeping officers have the latest bathymetric river updates available to them. It is strongly recommended that masters should work closely with the pilot at all times and that the ship's echo sounder(s) are used while passing through the channel.

Owners are also recommended to consult their local agent in advance for more updated and detailed information.

Your Managers will keep Members posted of further developments as they become available.

Your Managers thank A&A Multinspec Ltda. for information forming the basis of this Alert.