

Bunker Contamination Claims and Dispute Resolution Training Course

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Overview

Bunker Contamination Claims and Dispute Resolution Training Course is a one-week advanced course for shipowners, bunker buyers, marine superintendents, suppliers, surveyors, claims handlers, chartering teams and maritime legal support personnel. Participants build a Bunker Contamination Evidence and Resolution File connecting contract specifications, samples, laboratory findings, machinery response, notices, causation, loss and negotiation. The course focuses on contaminated and off-spec marine fuel disputes rather than fuel-transfer operations. Agile Leaders Training Center presents bunker contamination dispute practice.

Who Should Attend

- Shipowner and operator teams responsible for bunker quality and vessel response
- Bunker procurement and supplier teams handling specifications and complaints
- Marine superintendents and engineers preserving operational evidence
- Surveyors and laboratories supporting sampling and analysis
- Claims, chartering, insurance and legal-support teams resolving disputes

The course assumes participants already understand bunker supply or maritime claims; it leaves out introductory fuel handling and jurisdiction-specific legal advice.

Departments and Industries

The course supports technical and commercial dispute work across shipping, fuel supply and marine insurance.

- Shipowning, vessel management and marine engineering
- Bunker procurement, trading and fuel supply
- Testing laboratories and marine surveying
- Chartering, freight and commodity operations
- Marine insurance, claims and dispute advisory services

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Apply ISO 8217:2024 and contract specifications to fuel evidence.
- Build representative sampling and chain-of-custody controls.
- Analyze laboratory findings and operational symptoms.
- Diagnose contamination source, causation and machinery impact.
- Evaluate notice, mitigation, loss and recovery positions.
- Build a bunker contamination evidence and resolution file.

Course Agenda

Day 1: Frame Fuel Quality and Contract Duties

- ISO 8217:2024 Marine Fuel Specification Map
- MARPOL Annex VI Regulation 18 Evidence Interface
- Bunker Purchase Specification and Incorporation Checklist
- Supplier Terms, Charterparty and Responsibility Matrix
- Quality, Quantity and Fitness Dispute Classification Tool

Day 2: Preserve Samples and Laboratory Evidence

- Delivery Sampling Point and Representative Sample Plan
- Container, Seal, Label and Witness Control Sheet
- Chain-of-Custody and Sample Release Register
- Routine and Advanced Laboratory Test Selection Matrix
- Result Variance, Retest and Expert Instruction Protocol

Day 3: Investigate Contamination and Causation

- Fuel Storage, Segregation and Transfer Timeline
- Machinery Symptom and Fuel-Use Correlation Chart
- Onboard Cross-Contamination Exclusion Method
- Contaminant Source and Alternative-Cause Analysis
- Expert Report Assumption and Evidence Review

Day 4: Control Notices, Mitigation and Claims

- Contract Notice and Time-Bar Tracking Register
- Fuel Isolation, Debunkering and Machinery Mitigation Decision Tree
- Cost, Delay, Damage and Consumption Loss Schedule
- Claim, Defense and Counter-Evidence Matrix
- Negotiation, Settlement and Escalation Strategy Sheet

Day 5: Practice Bunker Dispute Resolution

- Exercise: Audit a Bunker Contract and Specification File
- Exercise: Test Sample Integrity and Laboratory Evidence
- Exercise: Reconstruct Contamination and Machinery Causation
- Exercise: Quantify Loss and Prepare a Resolution Position
- Capstone Exercise: Complete the Bunker Contamination Evidence and Resolution File

Practical Exercises

The course uses suggested activities based on shipowner, supplier and insurer cases.

- Suggested activity: reconcile seal records, delivery notes and laboratory certificates.
- Suggested activity: test competing explanations for contamination and machinery damage.
- Suggested activity: prepare a notice and mitigation chronology for an off-spec stem.
- Suggested activity: negotiate a claim from a shared evidence and loss schedule.

FAQs

Who suits Bunker Contamination Dispute training, and what does it assume?

Bunker Contamination Dispute training suits technical, procurement, survey, claims, chartering and legal-support personnel. It assumes experience with bunker supply or maritime claims and develops advanced evidence and resolution controls.

How does Bunker Contamination Dispute training differ from a bunkering operations course?

Bunker Contamination Dispute training focuses on off-specification evidence, contamination, causation, losses and claims resolution rather than transfer planning, connection, pumping and routine bunker safety.

Why does representative sampling matter in a bunker contamination claim?

Representative sampling links the tested material to the delivered fuel. Sampling location, continuity, clean equipment, witnesses, seals, labels, custody and storage affect the weight and reliability of laboratory evidence.

Can fuel meet table limits and still create a contamination dispute?

A dispute may still arise when tested parameters meet listed limits but other material makes the fuel unacceptable for marine use. Contract wording, ISO 8217:2024 general requirements, advanced analysis and causation evidence require review.

How is machinery damage linked to contaminated bunkers?

Causation requires a supported timeline connecting the delivered and consumed fuel, test findings, equipment symptoms, preserved parts, maintenance condition and alternative causes. Off-specification alone does not establish every claimed loss.

Conclusion

Participants take back a Bunker Contamination Evidence and Resolution File containing contract maps, sample controls, test reviews, causation analysis, notices and loss schedules. The file aligns technical and claims teams around traceable evidence. It also supports reasoned negotiation and escalation when fuel quality, damage or responsibility remains disputed.

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