

## SteelMac's 'Sucar Doce' Tug Attempts Emergency Rescue on MT 'Gorgonilla'

27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Details of vessel in distress

<b>Name:</b>	Gorgonilla
<b>Gross Tonnage:</b>	4959
<b>Net Tonnage:</b>	2838
<b>Deadweight:</b>	8192 Tonnes
<b>Class:</b>	DNV
<b>IMO Number:</b>	8800767
<b>Type:</b>	Tanker for Oils and Chemicals
<b>Length:</b>	115 Metres
<b>Breadth:</b>	22 Metres



(above) The MT 'Gorgonilla'

At approximately 23:00 hours on the 27/1/10, SteelMac was contacted by the Gibraltar Port Authorities informing us that the MT 'Gorgonilla' was in distress with a main engine failure about 3 miles south of Europa Point. At 23:15 hours SteelMac personell in agreement with the Gibraltar Port Authority decided that SteelMac's Salvage Tug 'Sucar Doce' would sail to offer assistance. The Gibraltar Port Authority was informed that there would be some delay in departure as the vessel was under repairs and all loose gear on deck would have to be secured.

At 01:00 hours on the 28/1/10 the 'Sucar Doce' departed its berth at the Detached Mole and proceeded to 'Gorgonilla's' position, which at the time was 6 miles of Europa Point with a bearing of 195°. Weather at the time was Force 8 Easterly. At this time the MT 'Gorgonilla' was not under command and drifting into the straits traffic lanes. At about 02:30 hours Sucar Doce established close visual contact with the stricken vessel.

Considering the prevailing weather conditions and that the Westerly drift occurring was not within the shipping lanes, it was decided by both Captains that the 'Sucar Doce' would maintain its close position and remain on standby. Although the 'Gorgonilla' was not in absolute distress it was also decided that the 'Sucar Doce' would remain ready to attach the tow at short notice should the situation worsen.

The tug 'Sucar Doce' enduring atrocious weather conditions, maintained station until 04:30 hours when they were duly informed by the 'Gorgonilla' that its main engines had been restarted and normality prevailed on board. At 04:45 hours 'Sucar Doce' begins its return journey to Gibraltar; arriving at anchorage at 07:30 hours.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact the SteelMac head office:

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