





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

CRIMINAL SYNDICATE CONVICTED OF TAMPERING WITH MASS FLOW METERS TO CHEAT OVER US\$300K WORTH OF MARINE FUEL OIL

Nine members of a criminal syndicate have been convicted in 2020 and 2021 for offences under the Computer Misuse Act, for using industrial strength magnets to tamper with the Mass Flow Meter ("MFM") equipment on board bunker tankers Southernpec 6 and Southernpec 7 to cheat buyers of marine fuel oil ("MFO"). The buyers were cheated of US\$336,930.63 worth of MFO in total. The matter was jointly investigated by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore ("MPA") and the Singapore Police Force ("SPF").

2 The outcomes of the cases against three masterminds and six cargo officers are set out in the table below:

S/N	Name (Alias)	Role	Date of sentencing	Sentence
1	Ang Heng Lye	Mastermind	21 June 2021	35 months'
	(Eric)			imprisonment
2	Tay Tien Whui	Mastermind	4 August 2021	34 months
	(Jason)			and 2 weeks'
				imprisonment
3	Kek Kah Hui	Mastermind	26 June 2021	34 months'
	(Dylan)			imprisonment
4	Ang Heng Chye	Cargo officer	26 August 2020	19 months'
				imprisonment
5	Heng Meng	Cargo officer	28 July 2021	18 months
	Wee, Stanley			and 2 weeks'
				imprisonment

S/N	Name (Alias)	Role	Date of sentencing	Sentence
6	Leong Wai	Cargo officer	27 July 2021	13 months'
	Chew, Lionel			imprisonment
7	Chua Yew Hui,	Cargo officer	9 June 2020	9 months'
	Andy			imprisonment
8	Chua Yan Jing,	Cargo officer	30 September	7 months'
	Gab		2020	imprisonment
9	Kek Kah Hee	Cargo officer	13 November	2 weeks'
			2020	imprisonment

3 To uphold the integrity of the bunker process in the Port of Singapore, MPA has mandated the use of MFMs for the delivery of MFO as it provides assurance to both buyers and suppliers on the delivered quantity of MFO, and enhances transparency in the bunkering process.

4 The criminal syndicate's tampering with MFMs on bunker tankers Southernpec 6 and Southernpec 7 was conceptualised by the masterminds, and carried out by the cargo officers on board. The syndicate's illegal operations were discovered during an enforcement check by MPA in April 2019. MPA revoked the bunker craft operator and bunker supplier licence of Southernpec (Singapore) Pte Ltd with effect from 8 May 2019 and 29 May 2019 respectively. The *modus operandi* of the syndicate is set out in **Annex A**.

5 The authorities take a serious view of such criminal activities and will not hesitate to take firm action against those who commit offences that undermine Singapore's international reputation as a trusted shipping and bunkering hub.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS MARITIME PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

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For queries, please contact:

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CHAMBERS STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Ms Lai Xue Ying Assistant Director (Media, Public & Corporate Communications) Tel: 6908 3067 Email: LAI_Xue_Ying@agc.gov.sg

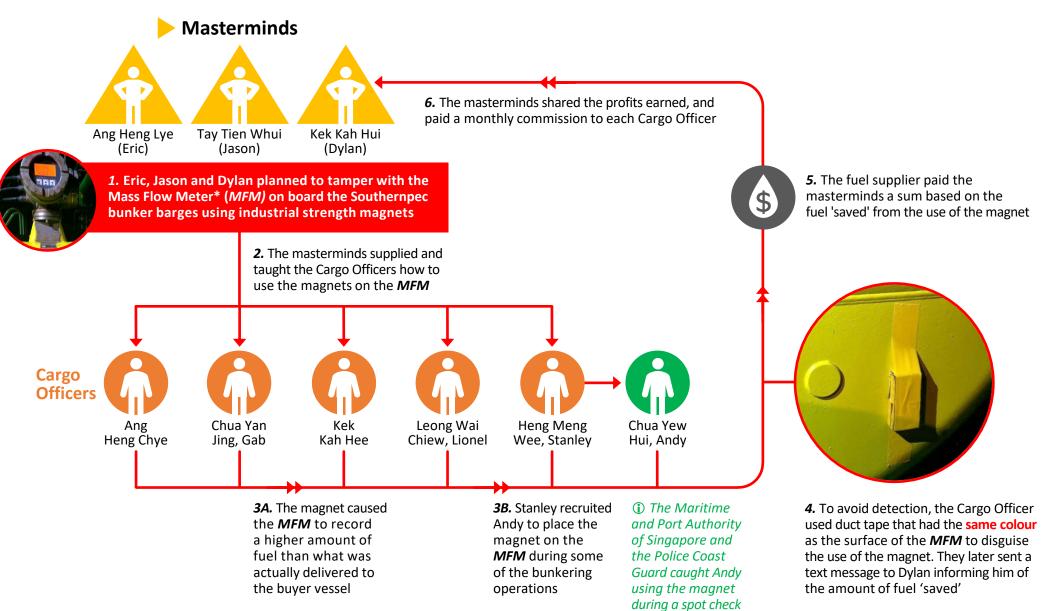
MARITIME PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY DIVISION

Mr Stefan Tan Manager (Corporate Communications) Tel: 6375 1022 Email: Stefan_TAN@mpa.gov.sg

SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Ms Nurulhuda Binti Zaibarudin Public Communications Officer (Media Relations) Tel: 9739 2315 Email: Nurulhuda_ZAIBARUDIN@spf.gov.sg

Modus Operandi of the Bunkering Fraud Syndicate





* Mass Flow Meter is a device used to measure the amount of fuel transferred from a bunker barge to a buyer vessel Pictures provided by the Singapore Police Force