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Dimitris C at Ilo Photo: Peruvian navy

Cocaine found on Danaos ship in Peru

Greek vessel underway again after bags of drugs discovered by crew at Ilo.

September 18th, 2017 12:47 GMT by Gary Dixon
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Cocaine has been discovered in the hold of a Danaos boxship in Peru.

Local media said 121kg of the drug was found on the 3,400-teu Dimitris C (built 2001) at Ilo, according to police.

A search had been carried out after an intelligence tip-off.

The Peruvian navy said in a statement that the vessel had arrived on 13 September from Iquique in Chile.

The cocaine was found in three canvas bags and a black briefcase.

Danaos told TradeWinds that a search was carried out by crew, as per its company policy, especially when vessels call at ports suspected of drug trafficking.

The drugs were found by the crew carefully hidden in a void space on deck between two holds.

The master was instructed immediately to inform authorities, who boarded the vessel with a large team from the police force and trained dogs.

A full search was conducted by the authorities, escorted by the crew's safety committee, an office representative who flew from Greece and the representatives of the local P&I club.

No other drugs were found.

"In addition, the local prosecutor interrogated the crew members. The full procedure began on September 14 and ended on September 17," it added.

"The vessel and the crew were found to be innocent and released without any charges. The vessel sailed at 15:00 on September 17."

The vessel was shown by AIS data as underway on Monday to Guayaquil in Ecuador.

The crew consisted of 16 Ukrainians, three Russian and four Tanzanians.

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