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SHIPPINGWATCH

Norwegian man woke up with huge container ship in his garden

The 135 meter long container ship is owned by North Sea Container Line. No injuries or oil spills have been reported.



The 135-meter-long ship hit land while Johan Helberg was asleep in his house in Byneset west of Trondheim. | Photo: Ntb/Ritzau Scanpix

RITZAU

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A large container ship ran aground early Thursday morning right next to a house on the Trondheimsfjord in Norway.

The 135-meter-long, 886 teu ship hit land while Johan Helberg was asleep in his house in Byneset, west of Trondheim.

Helberg only woke up when his neighbor “rang the doorbell violently”.

“If it had hit five meters to the left, it would have slid up the rocks and my house would probably have looked completely different,” Helberg told Norwegian media NRK.

No injuries or oil spills have been reported, according to the Norwegian news agency NTB.

The ship NCL “Salten” was on its way from the northwest coast of Norway to Orkanger in the fjord system.

Norwegian coastal authorities have now taken over the planning to get the ship, owned by North Sea Container Line, back on the water.

The company's CEO, Bente Hetland, tells Norwegian newspaper VG that the incident will be investigated.

"Right now, the most important thing is to think about the crew and the environment. So we will launch an investigation afterwards to find out what happened. We are working to get an overview of the incident," says the director.

The ship has a crew of 16 and a Norwegian captain. It sails under Cypriot flag.

Emergency services arrived on the scene at 06:25 local time and found the ship grounded.

"There was no damage to the house," Svein Erik Vagnild from the Trøndelag police district told NTB.

"As to exactly what has happened, we will have to report back later," he says.

It is unknown when authorities will attempt to tow the ship free. It also depends on the tide, they say.

At around 09:30 on Thursday, the VesselFinder ship monitoring service showed that the ship was still lying with its bow partially on land.

A tugboat is stationed not far away.

English edit by Daniel Frank Christensen