Cargo sampling

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1. Depending on the toxicity and/or volatility of the cargo, it may be necessary to prevent or minimize the release of vapour from the cargo tank ullage space during measurement sampling operations.

2. In accordance with ADN this should be achieved by the use of closed sampling equipment.

3. There are circumstances where it is considered essential to obtain clean samples for quality purposes, such as for high specification aviation fuels. The use of closed sampling equipment may cause cross-contamination of product samples and, where this is the case, the terminal operator may wish to undertake open sampling.

4. Risk mitigation measures, including the use of appropriate personal protective equipment, de-pressurizing cargo compartments, bonding and earthing to prevent a possible electrostatic discharge, should be put in place before starting the operation.

5. When open sampling procedures are being employed, the tank opening should only be uncovered long enough to complete the open sampling operation.