

Typical interview questions for senior deck officers (specific for bulk carriers) for determination of approximate level of competency:

Cargo:

- Which IMO code regulating carriage of bulk cargoes?
- Which IMO code regulating carriage of grain cargoes?
- Which document of IMO imposing requirements for cargo securing arrangements?
- How to find out properties of your cargo?
- Which USA organization regulate carriage of grain cargo in internal water of USA?
- In case if heeling moment due to grain cargo shifting exceeds limits, what measures can be done to proceed safely when vessel leaves USA or Canada?
- How to make can test of iron ore?
- What is danger most dangerous aspect of coal carriage?
- What is purpose of water ingress alarm system?
- If you have cargo hold bilge alarm, what will be your immediate action?
- Which process is normally more critical, loading or discharging?
- During cargo hold cleaning you have cargo residues. Which cargoes are allowed to be discharged to sea?
- How to find out, which cargo residues allowed be discharged to sea, and which are not.
- What will be your actions if you observe that stevedores have damaged your vessel during cargo operations?
- How to evaluate water tightness of you hatch covers?
- What elements on deck called – load line items?
- Which imo code regulates loading and discharging of bulk carriers?
- How do you perform final trimming when completing loading?
- During intermediate draft survey during cargo operations, you found excessive bending of hull, what will be your action?
- How it is possible to determine weight of cargo in every cargo hold?
- You have arrived to port to discharge full cargo. Initial draft survey, you have made a mistake and used lower density of sea water. Will in decrease cargo quantity on final draft survey?

Ballast:

- What parameters can be used in order to monitor process of ballast pump out?
- What parameters are restricting trim of the vessel for good pumping out?
- What ballast exchange methods are existing now?
- Is it safe to make an overflow of ballast tanks?
- How to reduce stress to ballast tanks during overflow?
- In case you lose vacuum and cannot pump out ballast anymore. What will be your actions?
- What kind of pump used for ballast pumps of bulk carriers?
- In case of system ballast valve hydraulic system failure, how you will manage to operate valves of ballast system.
- How do you manage to make sure that your ballast operations are not violating international and local legislation?
- If you are not sure, if it is permitted or not to pump out ballast, how you will find out.

Strength and Stability:

- What kinds of stress are existing on board of Bulk carrier?
- How to monitor Shearing force and bending moment?
- If you suspect that your vessel can be overloaded during cargo operations, what will be your actions?
- What is difference between local and general strengths?
- What is difference between stoical stability diagram and dynamical stability diagram?
- Is there any effective way to calculate sagging or hogging before loading?
- What is purpose of water ingress system?
- What is difference between cargo hold bilge alarm and water ingress system?
- Carriage of which cargoes will never cause lack of stability?
- What is difference between seal and harbor limits of loading software.
- In case your loading computer is out of order, how you are going to calculate strength and stability?
- How do you carry out testing of your loading computer?

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