

The Estonia Disaster

- The Estonia was sailing from Tallinn in Estonia to Stockholm in Sweden on September 27, 1994, when towering Baltic waves ripped off its visor-style bow door and water poured into the vehicle deck.
- The ship capsized and sank off the Finnish coast, trapping most passengers and crew inside. **Only 137 people survived** the disaster while **852 people were lost**.
- Design faults and incompetent crew contributed to the sinking of the Estonia ferry according to the official report.
- Strong evidence showed lack of proper maintenance and administrative failures.
- The disaster led IMO to decide on more strict damage stability rules for existing and new Ro-Ro passenger ships – SOLAS 90 & SOLAS 90+ (Stockholm Agreement)

