Investigation into the Sinking of the Ro-Ro Passenger Ferry *EXPRESS SAMINA* (September 26, 2000)

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The Accident

- Accident time: Tuesday September 26, 2000, 22:10 local time
- The ship: passenger/Ro-Ro ferry EXPRESS SAMINA
- Trip conditions: Average speed of 18.5 knots and moderate weather conditions of 5-6 Bf
- People onboard: 533 people onboard, 472 passengers and 61 crewmembers
- Cargo payload: 17 trucks and 34 cars on car deck
- Approaching the port of the Greek island Paros, she collides with the rocky islet Portes, at a distance 3 nm from the destination port
- The ship sank after abt. half an hour as the result of flooding of the main engine room and further progressive flooding of the entire buoyant spaces
- The accident caused the loss of 80 people
Express Samina (2000) hit the Portes islets

Video

Flooding scenario

[Diagram showing the damage and flooding scenario of the ship, labeled with 'Aft located Cracks', 'ER Damage', and 'Fore Damage close to WL']
The simulated/probable heeling scenario

- Comments on characteristic stages of EXPRESS SAMINA sinking

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The Sinking Scenario

The collision on the rocks at 22:10 (+0 min)
The Sinking Scenario

The transient heeling of 5 deg at 22:13 (+3 min)
The Sinking Scenario

Immersion of upper damage opening at 22:23 (+13 min)
The Sinking Scenario

Immersion of promenade deck, heeling 23 deg, at 22:27 (+17 min)
The Sinking Scenario

Immersion of embarkation deck, heeling 33 deg, at 22:30 (+20 min)