



Pirates seize another Singaporean ship

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Somali pirates seized another Singaporean vessel around the same time that the 'Kota Wajar', which was seized in October 2008, was released.

Pirates reportedly commandeered the chemical tanker, 'PT Pramoni' over the year-end holidays. The vessel was headed to India from Genoa, Italy, when it was boarded by suspected pirates in the Gulf of Aden, the Maritime Port Authority (MPA) of Singapore told Baird Maritime.

A spokesman from the MPA said that the authority was working with government agencies and 'Pramoni's' ship manager, GBLT Ship Management, to establish communication lines and to ascertain the safety of the crew and its cargo.

News of this hijacking at the time of the unveiling of an innovative Ship Security Reporting System by UK-based firm Pole Star, designed to substantially reduce reaction time to pirate incidents.

"This improved response time could be the difference between the pirates boarding the ship and being repelled," Pole Star website read, underlining the device's effectiveness.

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