**The Redwood case**

The Italian time charterer who claimed substantial damages (950K Euro) from Lloyd’s Register (LR) has lost the claim before the Italian Supreme Court in Rome on 24 October 2017.

The charterer had incurred extra expenses hiring an alternate vessel after the LR classed vessel ‘’Redwood’’ was detained by port state control in Hamburg in January 2003, for a number of deficiencies, and claimed reimbursement from LR before the tribunal of Genoa.

LR lost the case before the Tribunal which ruled that the LR surveys of the defective items, prior to January 2003, had not been properly conducted without making any reference to any particular breaches of its Rules.

LR appealed the Judgement and produced evidence showing that the claimant had not placed any reliance on LR‘s representation of the vessel’s classification prior to the loading of the cargo on board ‘’Redwood’’, pursuant to an unsigned charterparty and just before the vessel’s detention.

The court of Appeal dismissed the Judgement on evidence that the charterer had not placed any reliance on LR prior to the ‘’Redwood’’ charter and LR denials of any failure to conduct surveys properly.

The court of appeal decision was affirmed by the Italian Supreme Court on 24 October 2017