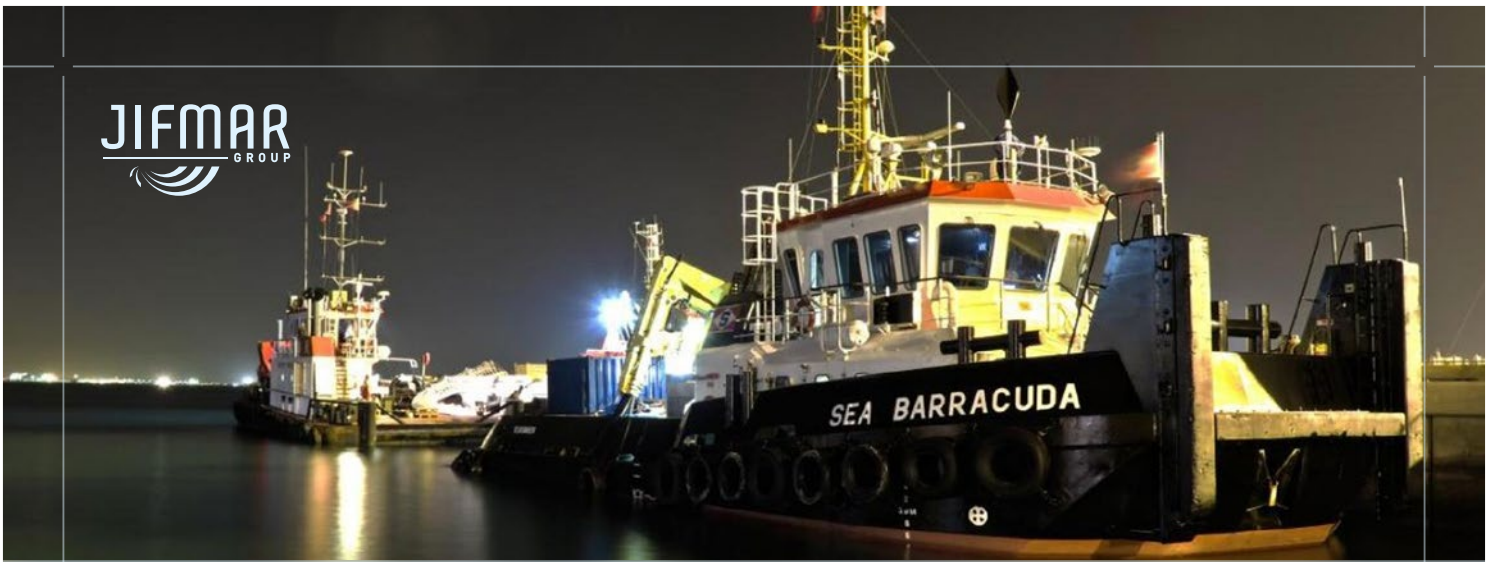




PRESS RELEASE → JIFMAR GROUP → 22 OCT 2026 → 1/1

JIF Barracuda: Jifmar Group sets out the facts following the incident in the Strait of Hormuz

Aix-en-Provence, France
& Den Helder, the Netherlands,
22 October 2026

Jifmar Group confirms that its workboat JIF Barracuda, operated by Jifmar Marine Services, was damaged by unidentified objects on the night of 17 to 18 October 2026 while transiting the Strait of Hormuz from Sharjah (UAE) to Muscat (Oman). The five crew members are safe. The Master sustained a minor injury. The vessel suffered no water ingress, remained able to manoeuvre and reached Khor Fakkan under escort of the Omani Coast Guard on 18 October.

Jifmar Group wishes to set out the facts as established to date, on the basis of the preliminary statement of the vessel's Designated Person Ashore (DPA).

A planned and monitored transit

JIF Barracuda left Sharjah on 16 October with five crew members on board, all of whom had volunteered for the passage, while towing a tug. The transit through the Strait of Hormuz had been coordinated with the relevant authorities and the designated company responsible for ensuring the highest possible level of safety during the crossing, which had agreed on the transit schedule and the monitoring of the voyage.

Shortly before 02:00 UTC, JIF Barracuda relayed a message that had been damaged by an unidentified object, and the Master had a minor injury. The DPA immediately alerted authorities and informed Jifmar Group's management.

JIF Barracuda was in direct contact with the DPA, and the management decided to stop the vessel in the first safe port. The vessel could manoeuvre on her own but had lost all her navigation equipment. The Omani Coast Guard reached her shortly afterwards and escorted her to Khor Fakkan, where she arrived safely at the end of the morning on 18 October.

Crew safe, vessel secured

The Master's injury is minor and he has received appropriate care. The four other crew members are unharmed. Jifmar Group is in direct contact with the crew and their families.

"Our first thought is for the crew of the JIF Barracuda. They faced an unexpected and serious situation at night, and they brought their vessel and their colleagues to safety. That is the result of their professionalism and of the procedures we train for. We are grateful to the authorities for their rapid support. We also ask everyone to rely on the facts we publish rather than on speculation. We will share what we learn as the survey and the full report are complete."

Jean-Michel Berud - CEO

Govert Jan Van Oord - Managing Director

For media inquiries and more information:

Jifmar Group

120 av. Napoléon Bonaparte,
13100 Aix-en-Provence, France.

Tel. +33 4 86 82 03 60
contactpress@jifmar.com