A B S T R A C T

The present invention relates to a ship or floating support (1) for transporting or storing liquid (3) constituted by a liquefied gas, preferably selected from methane, ethylene, propane, and butane, cooled in at least one large tank (2), preferably a cylindrical tank of polygonal cross-section, that is thermally insulated (2a) and of large size, with at least its smallest dimension in the horizontal direction, in particular its width, being greater than 20 m, preferably lying in the range 25 m to 50 m, and a volume greater than 10,000 m^3, said large tank (2) being supported inside the hull (4) of the ship by a carrier structure (11), the ship being characterized in that it includes a plurality of devices for detecting the roughness of the liquid within said large tank(s), said devices being referred to below as "beacons" (5, 5-1, 5-2), and comprising:

a) a vibration sensor of the vibratory accelerometer type suitable for measuring the amplitude of the acceleration (g) as a function of time (t) of the vibratory movements of a wall of said large tank or of a wall (4a, 4b) of said shell of the ship, on which wall said beacons are fastened; and

b) an electronic calculation unit comprising a microprocessor and an incorporated memory, suitable for processing said signal as measured by said vibration sensor (5a), at least in order to eliminate the background noise specific to the ship therefrom; and

c) means for transmitting said signal, preferably after processing by said electronic calculation unit, to a supervisor or central unit (6), preferably located on the bridge of the ship.

Translation of the abstract as it was when originally filed by the Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that might have been made subsequently by the PCT Authorities acting ex officio, e.g. under PCT Rules 37.2, 38.2, and/or 48.3.