



Human Element Maritime Enhancement Tool (H.EL.M.E.T)

**HELMET ELEMENT 4: Item 5 'Permit to Work System' & Item 8 'Gas Analyzers and Atmosphere Monitoring'**

FINDING: During an onshore HELMET assessment, our HELMET Assessor observed that the Ship Operator's procedures revolving around the enclosed space entry permit did not include a verification check for carbon monoxide. Additionally, the subject procedures did not set as a pre-requisite the use of a portable gas meter for measuring oxygen, flammable gases or vapours, hydrogen sulphide and carbon monoxide prior to entering an enclosed space, as per SOLAS XI-1.

Ref. MSC 380(94) adopted amendments to SOLAS chapter XI-1 (Reg. 7) and to industry's standards: TMSA 9.1.4

Is this important?

The subject finding is calling for immediate actions as safety on board is jeopardized and it is clear evidence that the Company's procedures in regards to enclosed space entries have not been thoroughly audited in the past.

SUGGESTION: The Operator should ensure that:

- Internal audits are carried out effectively by experienced auditors.
- The fleet is informed regarding the findings and entries into enclosed spaces should temporarily be paused. Confirmation of understanding by the fleet is essential.
- The fleet is equipped with the applicable equipment and testing kit whilst the seafarers are aware of its purpose and are well trained on its use.
- The SMS procedures have been amended and distributed among the fleet by constantly monitoring their proper implementation.

Notice: Tip of month is circulated by P@S every month in an effort to inform the industry of the results from the implementation of our H.EL.M.E.T standard and the red flags raised during the onshore and on board risk assessments carried out by H.EL.M.E.T Auditors.

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