



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



HELMET ELEMENT 2

Item 14 'Management of Changes'

FINDING: During an onshore HELMET assessment, our HELMET Assessor noticed that the Operator had not adhered to the Management of Change (MOC) process when changes were applied to the on-load hooks of the side launched lifeboats.

Ref. ISM 3.4.3 and to industry's standards: TMSA 7.1.2

Is this important?

Every inadequately managed change to the safety equipment and systems used on board vessels can trigger an incident, or an accident. Non-implementation of the MOC process indicates non-compliance with the procedures that are in place to ensure the impact of any proposed change is assessed. Additionally, it implies lack of familiarization of the responsible person with the MOC process and unawareness with regard to changes which are subject to it.

Usual reasons for non-compliance with the MOC program:

- time-consuming
- non-familiarization of the responsible persons
- poor monitoring and/or implementation by shore personnel

SUGGESTION: Achieving a higher implementation level of the MOC procedures requires the development of a straightforward and easy-to-use MOC manual. This manual shall serve as the basis for training the personnel to successfully implement and monitor MOC procedures. A MOC decision checklist can prove helpful in quick and efficient decision-making.

The appropriate risk management strategies need to be applied as well on the side of the company. Every change has to be analyzed to verify whether affected tasks' risk level rises, in which case additional control measures need to be applied.

Regarding the on-load hooks of the lifeboats, the MOC process should have been applied to ensure all connected equipment and systems shall keep working properly after the change and that all relevant personnel are aware of the new procedures to be followed. Finally, such process would also ensure that the affected lifeboat manual would be updated, training needs would be identified and the drill procedures would be accordingly differentiated.

Notice: Tip of the month is circulated by P@S monthly in an effort to inform the industry of the red flags raised from the implementation of our onshore and onboard HELMET risk assessment program to meet highest standards, carried out by H.EL.M.E.T. Assessors.

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