



EVAPORATOR LOW PRODUCTION



- **HELMET ELEMENT 10 'Engine Operations & Maintenance – Item 7 'Oil and Water Management'**
- **SOLAS, Chapter II-1, regulation 38.4 (Services for habitability)**
- **IMO: MEPC 73/19/Add.1 Annex 5, 4.1.4 D – Ship's general services**
- **IMO: Shipboard Energy Management**

INCIDENT

During an onboard Engine Room audit, the PAS Auditor noticed that the overall production of the ship's fresh-water generator was very low and the person in charge was not in a position to provide specific details of the root cause.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The production of distilled water is essential for long distance voyages, facilitating vessel's self-efficiency, compliance with SOLAS regulations and the well-being of the crew members. Distilled water may be used indicatively for drinking of fresh water, cleaning jobs, or in the event of a mechanical failure.

SUGGESTIONS

- Ensure the person in charge maintains situational awareness and is aware of the importance of good operation of the subject machinery.
- Check the system for leakages, especially for air inside the system which lowers the vacuum efficiency.
- Ensure that the generator is free of dirt, scale, or biological growth so that there is no loss of heat.
- Adjust temperature levels at an optimal setting as per the manufacturer's instructions and always have in mind the sea-water temperature.
- Operate the system in the temperature/vacuum windows and never above or below.
- Verify manometers and thermometers indication.
- Clean, flush and maintain the unit as per the Company's PMS.
- Ensure that the piping system is unobstructed, the diverter valves and pumps are properly operating, and the strainers/filters are clean and in good condition.

EXTRA TIP

When there is an indication of system's malfunction, operate the generator during day hours with the aim to identify the potential cause. Keep '24-hours' records of system's fresh-water output.

PREVENTION AT SEA

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