

COUNTERFEIT CRYOGENIC PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



- **HELMET ELEMENT 4 'Safety' – Item 3 'Personal Protective Equipment'**
- **ICS: Tanker Safety Guide Chapter 3.11.2 'Personal Protective Equipment'**
- **IMO: IGC Code Chapter 14 – 14.1 Protective Equipment**
- **SIRE 2.0 Ch. 8 'Cargo & Ballast Systems' - Sec. 8.6.13 'Protective equipment required by the IGC Code'**

FINDING

During a Safety Audit onboard, our Auditor observed that the vessel's cryogenic protective suit was counterfeit, as its thermal insulation and durability required for handling cryogenic materials were below standard. Additionally, no certificate for the performance standards of the suit was found available onboard.

IMPORTANCE?

Cryogenic protective suits are vital Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) designed to safeguard crew members against extreme cold, spills, and burns associated with cryogenic material handling. Using defective or not certified suits exposes crew members to potential serious injuries, including frostbite, hypothermia, and chemical burns during cryogenic spills or leaks.

BEST PRACTICES FOR THE VESSEL

- Inspect all cryogenic protective suits onboard and verify authenticity against manufacturers' specifications.
- Check the certification labels.
- Isolate counterfeit suits from operational use.
- Arrange replacement with approved, certified equipment.
- Report counterfeit findings to the Company's safety department for further investigation and action.

ACTIONS FOR THE OFFICE

- Verify that all safety equipment is procured from approved suppliers and includes proper certifications.
- Develop guidelines for the verification process and require documented proof of authenticity.
- Provide instructions to the crew on how to identify counterfeit suits.
- Run safety awareness campaigns to highlight the risks of counterfeit cryogenic protective equipment, the importance of compliance with safety standards and the correct PPE usage protocols.

Note: 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.

PREVENTION AT SEA

5 Artemidos Avenue, 6th Floor,
6020, Larnaca, Cyprus
Tel: +357 24819800

PREVESEA

91 Akti Miaouli Str., 3rd Floor,
185 38 Piraeus, Greece
Tel: +30 210 6437637

✉ sales@preventionatsea.com
🌐 www.preventionatsea.com

