

Subject: "Fire safety equipment: How to extinguish deficiencies!"

Case: Recently, it has been reported that a cargo vessel, faced difficulties in Rotterdam when the Port State Control Officers boarded the vessel for a detailed PSC inspection. In accordance with the vessel's equipment Certificates and Documentation, the Annual Inspection for firefighting and fire extinguishing appliances was carried out 15 days prior the PSC inspection by an IACS approved service supplier. Amongst other findings, the PSC Officers during inspection, found that seven portable firefighting extinguishers were damaged and several fire hoses were leaking during testing process.



Further to the above, the following PSC deficiencies were identified:

- Seven (7) Firefighting extinguishers are damaged and
- New Fire hoses found heavily leaking

In connection to the above, and in order to assist our Clients to avoid similar complications in the future, we would like to highlight the **SOLAS Ch. II-2 14 §2** requirements pursuant to the above case:

"Reg. 14 §2.1.2 Fire-fighting systems and appliances shall be kept in good working order and readily available for immediate use."

Referring to the above mentioned regulation and in order to assist further, '**Prevention at Sea**' suggests the following items to be considered during onboard annual inspection of the firefighting equipment:

1. Relevant procedures should be established for evaluating the service suppliers that may be assigned to perform an inspection onboard.
2. Instructions should be issued for the vessel's crew to control the quality of the inspection and also ensure that service suppliers follow the Manufacturers' maintenance procedures.
3. An internal mechanism should be established for acquiring safety appliances only by Recognized / Certified Manufacturers.
4. '**Prevention at Sea**' suggests that an inspection of the safety equipment should be performed, even if the said equipment is newly purchased.



We remain at your disposal for more details,

Prevention at Sea

