PREVENTION AT SEA

CIRCULAR 01/2018

SAFETY IN THE ENGINE ROOM
– SAFETY ON BOARD!

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PREVENT

Safety in the Engine Room - Safety on board!

Case Study: Recently, it has been reported that a cargo vessel faced difficulties in Taranto, Italy when the Port State Control Officers boarded the vessel for a detailed PSC inspection. Amongst other findings, it was evidenced that the ***Chief Engineer and the Engine Crew were not familiar with essential shipboard operations relating to safety and in particular with the test of oil mist detector and the remote stopping device for fuel and diesel pumps (ISM-related deficiency).***


1

As a result, the vessel was detained!


2


3

In connection to the above case and during the analysis of the results from PaSea Marine Risk Audits onboard vessels, it has been observed that Crew Deck Officers are more familiar with safety related issues on their field of operation (Deck), than the crew working in the Engine Room.
Despite the established working procedures by the ship operator involving work permits for critical tasks such as enclosed spaces, hot work, working aloft etc, it is evidenced that similar tasks taking place in different areas onboard are treated differently by the crew members.
For example, for one of the common tasks in the Engine Room (i.e. entry into enclosed space), it was difficult for the engine crew to present evidence that the relevant work permit for safety assurance were followed.

1/ Engine Control Room
2/ Working in the E/R without PPE
3/ Working safely in the E/R with PPE

The Table below is an indicative list of Chief Engineer's duties (STCW 95 section A- III /2) and responsibilities related to safety onboard;

Chief Engineer – Indicative List of Duties & Responsibilities

- Inspections of equipment dealing with ship and personal safety should be carried out at regular time intervals;
- All equipment used for pollution prevention should be frequently checked for proper operation;
- The Chief Engineer should ensure that proper operation and maintenance of fuel and lubricating oil and purifying equipment is carried out to minimize leakage;
- The Chief Engineer is responsible to motivate his crew to develop a "safety first" attitude onboard;
- The Chief Engineer provides guidance to his crew during drills, so that they know how to get out of an emergency situation safely and in the minimum time possible; and
- It is essential for the Chief Engineer, to know in detail the working operation of all Engine Room compartments and equipment, such as fixed fire fighting installation, the operation of quick closing valves etc. in order to be in a position to deal with all emergency situations that may come up.

It is suggested to appoint an assistant Ship Safety Officer from the Engine room crew members, to handle along with the Ship Safety Officer issues related specifically to the engine room safety.

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DON'T CURE, PREVENT! FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US.

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