

DON'T CURE PREVENT

ISSUE 06 DECEMBER 2020



**HATCH COAMING
SEALING RUBBERS' CONDITION**



HATCH COAMING SEALING RUBBERS' CONDITION



CASE

During an onboard H.E.L.M.E.T. assessment, while the vessel was discharging, the P@S Assessor noticed that the sealing rubbers' condition and sealing capacity was inadequate. During the assessment the assessor found the sealing rubbers to be damaged. The P@S assessor brought into the officers' and deck crew's attention the significance of the cargo holds' proper sealing in regards to ship's safety and the cargo's integrity. A requisition was raised immediately after the observation for sealing rubbers.

Following the cargo hold survey and the sealing test on one of its loading ports, the vessel was delayed in loading because of the water ingress observed in one of its Cargo Holds.



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

AS PER LLOYD'S REGISTER (A MASTER'S GUIDE TO HATCH COVER MAINTENANCE)

The purpose and function of a hatch cover is to prevent ingress of water into a cargo hold. Thus rigorous inspection, regular maintenance and prompt repair are essential for any damaged covers, securings and supports in order to maintain their fitness. One of the basic advice is to replace any missing or damaged gaskets (rubber packing) immediately.



WHAT WENT WRONG?

- ❏ The maintenance of the cargo holds was not following the PMS and Right Seamanship procedures and requirements.
- ❏ Negligence of Cargo Holds' integrity tests and inspections.
- ❏ Overconfidence on the sealing rubbers capability.
- ❏ Component's failure.



OUR SUGGESTION

Prevention at Sea suggests the following actions with the aim to avoid occurrence or prevent reoccurrence;

- ④ Assure that properly trained personnel perform the relevant inspections and maintenance.
- ④ Carry out inspections at regular intervals.
- ④ Follow the predetermined by the Company or maker, inspection and testing procedures.
- ④ Carry out repairs and/or rectifications as soon as possible if any deformation and/or damage is observed.





BEST PRACTICE

- ✓ Perform regular testing of Cargo Holds water integrity.
- ✓ In case of water ingress proceed to rectification or replacement of the worn/damaged part of the sealing on early convenience.
- ✓ As a crucial part of the crew's, vessel's and cargo's safety an essential amount of spare parts ready to be used should be kept on board the vessel.

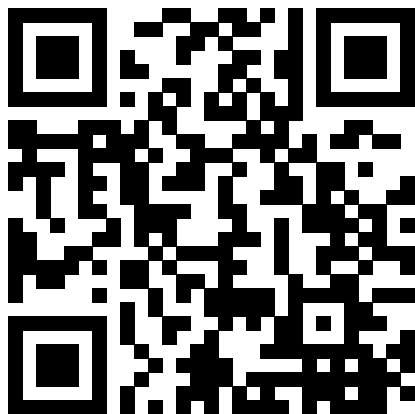
REMEMBER: Monitoring of the oil level for each reservoir of Steering Gear and regular testing of the Oil Low Level Alarm are of high importance.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

CLICK ON THE LINKS *OR* SCAN THE QR CODE

Q&A



SPOT THE DEFICIENCY



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**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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