

DON'T CURE PREVENT

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CARGO VALVES



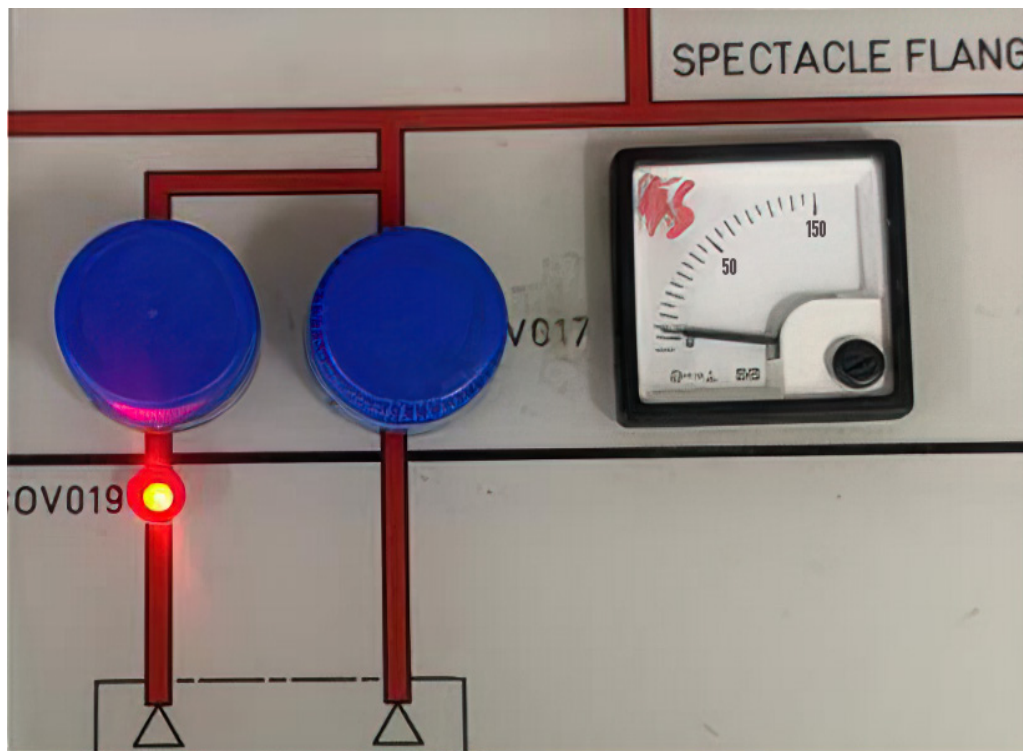
CARGO VALVES



CASE

While the PAS Assessor was conducting a Cargo & Ballast Audit, it was observed that one remote cargo delivery valve was indicated almost 5% in the open position while the Chief Officer had given an order to be fully closed. After a thorough check on the local solenoid boxes on deck, the PAS assessor noticed that the subject valve was indicated as fully closed. Moreover, the Master and C/O were not aware of the said malfunction and relevant records were not evidenced as per company's maintenance schedule.

The subject finding is critical for the vessel's smooth cargo operation and beacons the 'wrong message' regarding the maintenance strategy. Amongst others, such findings may cause complications during PSC, vetting inspections or class surveys.



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

AS PER SIRE 2.0, 1ST EDITION, CH. 8.99.4

Records of checks and tests of cargo and ballast system valves should be kept.

AS PER VIQ 7TH EDITION, CH.8.18

Cargo and ballast system valves shall be maintained in good order and regularly tested.

AS PER HELMET, ELEMENT 8 'CARGO OPERATION', ITEM 5

Responsible personnel shall be trained and familiar with:

- 🕒 The inspection, maintenance and safe operation of the cargo care equipment.
- 🕒 The recording the cargo care equipment failures and their disclosure to the company.



WHAT WENT WRONG?

- ❌ Non-compliance with Company's procedures for the proper inspection and maintenance of cargo valves.
- ❌ Lack of situational awareness and understanding the importance of proper maintenance of cargo equipment.
- ❌ Lack of knowledge on applicable regulations.
- ❌ Inadequate motivation and supervision.
- ❌ Lack of good seamanship.
- ❌ Hidden risks have not been identified/emphasized.



OUR SUGGESTION

We suggest the following actions with the aim to prevent such cases from occurring:

- 🕒 Highlight the vital importance of proper maintenance of the cargo valves.
- 🕒 Emphasize Company's procedures regarding inspection and maintenance plan.
- 🕒 Ensure proper monitoring of such equipment during pre-arrival tests and checks.
- 🕒 Ensure understanding by the Senior Officers on the vital role of the maintenance plan.
- 🕒 Ensure Stop Work responsibility is exercised when an unsafe act or condition is identified.



BEST PRACTICE

- ✅ Follow the Company's inspection and maintenance program.
- ✅ Ensure awareness of the importance of such equipment.
- ✅ Pay attention during pre-arrival tests for the proper working of the cargo equipment.
- ✅ Compare the cargo and ballast valve indications remote and locally.

REMEMBER:

- ▶ A well-maintained cargo pipeline system can prevent unexpected accidents, especially in the case of multi cargo grades.
- ▶ Each cargo machinery is essential for the environment and vessel's protection during cargo operation.

 **PREVENTION AT SEA**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US.



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