

DON'T CURE PREVENT

ISSUE 24 SEPTEMBER 2024



**OIL ACCUMULATION
IN ENGINE ROOM**



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CASE

During an Environmental & Engine audit, the PAS Auditor observed various leakages in the engine room area. More specifically, oil found accumulated inside the drip trays and in bilges. The drip trays were dirty with dried oil, indicating inadequate maintenance and housekeeping practices.

The subject non-conformance posed significant risks, if not managed properly. The PAS Auditor recommended immediate cleaning of the drip trays and bilges to remove the accumulated oil and dirt.



REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- **MSC.1/1321**
Guidelines for Measures to Prevent Fire in Engine Rooms and Cargo Pump Rooms.
- **SOLAS CH. II/ REG. 4, §1**
Probability of ignition: Prevention of the ignition of combustible materials or flammable liquids.



WHAT WENT WRONG?

- ✗ Poor housekeeping.
- ✗ Detected leakages were not rectified as soon as possible.
- ✗ Engine room bilges were dirty and it was not easy to identify any fresh leaks.
- ✗ Inadequate situational awareness and critical thinking.



OUR SUGGESTION

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

- 🕒 Daily inspect the Engine Room machinery, equipment, pipelines and valves for identifying potential leakages.
- 🕒 Rectify detected leakages as soon as practically feasible.
- 🕒 Keep the Engine room bilges always clean and free of oil.
- 🕒 Paint the Engine room bilges in a light color to visually assist in identifying any new leak.
- 🕒 Always ensure that good housekeeping practices are followed.
- 🕒 Ensure adequate situational awareness and critical thinking.
- 🕒 Report such non-conformance to the company.



BEST PRACTICE

- ✅ Follow maintenance procedures in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and as per PMS.
- ✅ Perform a thorough inspection during the day and night safety rounds.
- ✅ Always clean and paint as necessary the drip trays and bilges to ensure proper identification of any leakages.
- ✅ Run a campaign to raise awareness and highlight the importance of critical thinking and situational awareness on the above matters.
- ✅ Conduct a thorough investigation for any identified source of oily water in the bilge or other leakages in the ER.

 **PREVENTION AT SEA**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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