



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 374 of 06th November 2016

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Thorough Lifeboat Training life	
Reference:	SOLAS

Thorough Lifeboat Training life

Lifeboat manufacturers are calling attention to safety issues in abandon-ship drills – specifically, the danger that crews may not understand how to use the equipment in the event of a real emergency.

A report issued earlier this year by academics at the Seafarers International Research Centre found that tight vessel schedules often did not allow sufficient time for drills and crew were often too scared to take part as they had not been properly trained in using the equipment.

Improper operation and other factors have led to multiple fatalities during lifeboat drills in recent years. It is not recommend getting into a boat for a drill unless certain precautions are taken first.

The dangers associated with lifeboat drills are well known, and there is now extensive evidence to show the scale of fatalities arising from accidents. In the light of this, is recommended not to be in lifeboats when they are being raised or lowered, unless strops are in place.

Safe operation of any lifeboat system requires that the crew is thoroughly familiar with the equipment.

REFERENCES:

- **SOLAS**

ATTACHMENTS: No.

kindest Regards,
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