



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 555 of 07th April 2019

To: All Surveyors/Auditors

Applicable to flag: All Flags

Abandon Ship Drill

Reference: CONARINA Instructions

Assessing Abandon Ship Drill

1. Review training and drill records.
2. Review life-saving equipment maintenance records.
3. Review SMS procedures, company procedures, emergency plan, etc., as applicable. Note: Drills should be planned, organized, and performed in accordance with relevant shipboard requirements to minimize recognized risks.
4. Check the general condition of lifeboats/liferafts.
5. Confirm the drill scenario with the master.
6. Verify muster lists are posted in conspicuous places throughout the ship, including navigational bridge, engine room, and crew accommodation spaces.
7. Master gives clear instructions for the mustering position and the means of lowering/launching lifeboats/liferafts.
8. Mustering is completed quickly and calmly (no shouting/panic).
 - Dons personal life jacket/immersion suit. Note: Immersion suits must only be used upon the master's order.
 - Checks crew familiarity with donning immersion suits and life jackets randomly
 - Proceeds to assigned mustering station
9. Person in charge (PIC) reports to master the final number of people embarked
10. Confirm crew follows muster list position duties and requirements.
11. Confirm enough personnel are assigned to complete assigned duties.
12. Confirm communication between crew members, team leader, and the bridge is effective and relevant information is shared with all parties.
13. Confirm crew efficiency carrying out required duties and requirements.
14. Confirm the efficiency of the equipment used. For example:
 - Distress alarms are audible and efficient
 - Navigation equipment is ready for use
 - Personal life-saving equipment appears well-maintained
15. Lowering Lifeboat/Liferaft Test means of abandoning ship by lowering lifeboat/liferaft in

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water.

Note: Lowering lifeboat/liferaft is at the master's discretion, depending on weather, tidal conditions, etc.

16. Only assigned crew, trained and authorized to operate the lifeboat/liferaft, embark and are lowered in the lifeboat/liferaft. Note: The number of persons inside the lifeboats during launching for the purpose of a drill shall be at the master's discretion. It is now acceptable to allow lifeboats to be lowered without an operating crew inside.

17. Test engine and put to continuous work (when waterborne). Note: Lowering means to bring the lifeboat/liferaft secured on hooks to approximately one meter above the water level and then to put it back in stowed position. Launching means further disconnection from the hooks and maneuvering.

REFERENCES:

- SOLAS-ABS courtesy

- ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
Val Bozenovici
Naval Architect – Conarina Technical Director

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