



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 693 of 5th August 2021

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	Preparing for safety equipment survey
Reference	SOLAS Ch. III

Preparing for safety equipment survey

Before ship attending the surveyor is advised to check, at least, the following items before issuing Safety Equipment Certificate.

1. Check lifeboat. The lifeboat and its equipment should be checked and confirm if renewed, if applicable. The ship crew should know how to operate the lifeboat and what is the purpose of every installation in the lifeboat. Lower the lifeboat and check its movement both ahead and astern. Necessary overhauling and renewal must be done as per requirement.
2. Check Davids: Davits of lifeboats should be de-rusted, repaited, degreased along with the winches and the blocks. Check so that they do not jam at the crucial moment.
3. Check Inflatable Liferafts: The inflatable liferafts should be checked if they have been serviced at regular intervals. Check the equipment strictly and make any necessary replacements if necessary. Stickers generally require to be replaced as they lose their sheen over time easily under the duress of weather.
4. Check handheld radios, smoke signals and life buoys: The survival craft's portable handheld radio should be checked and kept in working order. The life buoys should be inspected and overhauled as required. The lights and batteries should be replaced if they have expired. Check the smoke signals as well as the lifelines. As per the safety plan for the vessel, the life buoys should be placed at different locations. Their location should be clearly mark out.

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5. Check pyrotechnics: Pyrotechnics must be functional and those that aren't must be replaced. The crew must know where the pyrotechnics are kept and how they are to be used. The instructions on the cover/front are enough to gather operational information.
6. Check Fire Control Plans and Systems: The fire control plans must be checked for legibility. Each of them must be checked and confirmed to.
7. Test Fire Detection Systems and Fire Fighting Equipment: Test the fire/smoke detection systems if possible. The fire pumps, fire hoses, fire extinguishers, nozzles, couplings should all be checked. Overhaul and refill extinguishers as per requirements. The fireman's outfit should be inspected for functionality. The ship's crew should practice wearing and removal of the kit (during drills) in order that they know how to do so at the crucial times. All alarms should also be tested.
8. Check Pilot Ladder: The pilot ladders along with all ancillary equipment must also be checked. Ensure that they match up to the specifications laid down as per legalities.
9. Check other important systems according to the type of the ship: The above mentioned point are general and apply to all ships. Tanks have additional checking points that are: IG system, piping of the fixed fire fighting system in the cargo pump room and the deck foam as well as sprinkler system.
10. Navigation systems and equipment are to be inspected as well, as part of the safety survey.

REFERENCES:

- SOLAS Ch. III

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,
CONARINA Technical Office

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