

ClassNK PSC Bulletin

Date:	27 October 2017
No:	NK-PSC-12
Attachment	No / Yes: 2 page(s)

Title:

Closing Device of Air Pipe

Typical deficiency (outline of comment) by PSC:

Closing Device of Air Pipe Defective

Port State

Country: All countries

Port: All ports

Action taken by PSC:

Detention

Rectify before Departure

Other

Description:

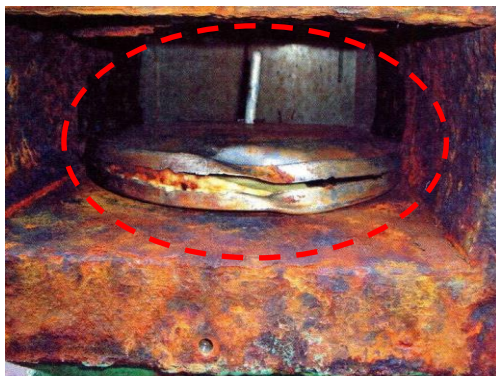
During recent PSC inspections, it has been frequently reported that PSC officers have pointed out that closing devices in air pipe heads are defective (Seizing/Damage/Missing of Float, Missing/Deterioration of Packing, etc.).

For ships that adopt the flow-through ballast water exchange method, it is considered that one of the causes of this deficiency is due to excessive loads on closing devices caused by a large volume of ballast water passing through air pipe heads.

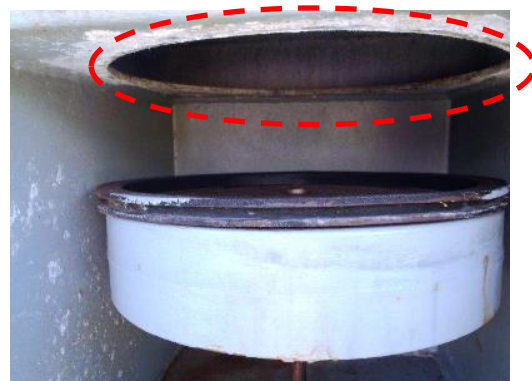
During PSC inspections, PSC officers might request vessels to open air pipe heads in order to confirm the condition of the closing devices. When a defective condition like the above is found, it should be pointed out as a deficiency. Further, there is a possibility that the deficiency may lead to grounds for detention because it might be judged as a lack of SMS implementation.

Given the above situation, it is recommended that opening up and internal inspection of air pipe heads be carried out for all ships in your fleet at appropriate intervals.

For reference, please be informed that the Marshall Islands Administration urges Owners and Operators to open and inspect air pipe heads every three months as shown in attached Marine Safety Advisory No.13-17 (see attached).



Damaged Disc Float



Detached Packing

Republic of the Marshall Islands

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 13-17

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: INSPECTION OF TANK VENT HEADS

Date: 26 April 2017

Please be advised that the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the "Administrator") has noted several issues with Port State Control relative to the condition of Tank Vent Heads. There have been numerous heads found with missing, broken, and wasted parts. These issues have been found on vessels of varying ages ranging from new delivery to existing vessels in service. Owners and Operators are urged to open and inspect these vent heads every three (3) months.

Examples of issues found are provided in the photographs below.



Missing disk and post



Gasket slipped off



Broken Post/missing gasket



Detached post

This MSA expires one (1) year after its issuance, unless otherwise noted, extended, superseded, or revoked.

Examples of issues found are provided in the photographs below.



Warped Disk/Missing gasket



Missing/broken post



Post too short, disk slipped off