

Subject

Maintenance, servicing and inspection for lifeboats and launching appliances

ClassNK

Technical Information

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To whom it may concern

According to a statistic data of PSC inspections for ships classed with ClassNK in 2011, a frequency of PSC pointing-out deficiencies with the lifeboat arrangements had once decreased in 2010, however, it was increased again in 2011 to the top frequency. (277 deficiencies pointed out/ 78 detentions)

Analysis of PCS inspection reports shows that the main items, with which deficiencies were pointed out, are as follows:

- Releasing gear: 32 deficiencies
- Engine (including fuel, lub., exh. and cooling systems, clutch and battery): 71 deficiencies,
* Battery for starter: 26 deficiencies
- Reflective tape: 15 deficiencies

These deficiencies themselves may be judged "to be rectified before departure" etc. However, if two or more deficiencies are found concurrently, these can be objective evidences for the judgement of non-conformity with ISM Code 10 "Maintenance of the Ship and Equipment", and that often results ship detention. It is expected further attention to the condition of lifeboat arrangements will be paid.

It seems that, usually, ship managers specify the SMS Procedure on check and maintenance of lifeboat arrangements, basing on the recommended plan and guidance by the makers.

According to a standardized check & maintenance plan prepared by the makers, in each opportunity of weekly, monthly and at drill, some check items with releasing gear, and engine & its surroundings are specified. Therefore, we would suggest you to carry out:

1. Confirmation whether the relevant SMS Procedure satisfies the maker-recommended plan, etc.
2. Instruction to the ships under your good management, in order for them to confirm the detailed check points (i.e., for releasing gear, weekly check points are the sureness of resetting and cleanliness of the moving parts) & its guidance at each occasion when they carry out the check & maintenance specified in SMS Procedure.

Regarding reflective tapes (broken, scraped or paint-damaged), it might not be described in a maker-recommended plan. Please consider to describe this item into your own plan, as necessary.

(To be continued)

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