

Ref : DMA/AIFI/96/C 811

Date: 03/09/2017

Dear Captain
Good Day,

During the recent Fleet Safety Committee Meeting, it has been emphasized that all ship's staff shall have basic knowledge and proper, adequate and practical familiarization with operation of emergency equipment such as emergency fire pump, emergency generator, launching life boats / life rafts, releasing of CO2 from CO2 room, use of various fire extinguishers, donning and use of fire man's outfit and BA set and etc. Such proper and adequate practical familiarization is vital to deal with various emergencies on board. Moreover same could be asked during various inspections and audits by different parties including PSC/FSC inspectors, external and internal auditors and class surveyors.

During a PSC/FSC inspection, the attending PSC/FSC officer may establish "clear grounds" for extended inspection and even detention of vessel, if he would doubt about the ability of the crew to carry out their emergency duties and practical operation of emergency equipment. The PSCO also can ask to see records of operation of emergency equipment which were carried out as per requirements of SOLAS and the on board Safety Management System.

Therefore it is duty of vessel's management team to ensure that:

- 1- All emergency equipment are always in perfect condition of readiness for use at any time. Any defect of such equipment shall be immediately reported to concerned SM Department and all efforts shall be made to rectify the defect as soon as possible.
- 2- All emergency equipment are inspected/checked/tested/maintained on regular basis and proper records are made and maintained.
- 3- All seafarers are well familiar with practical operation of emergency equipment on board ships. Such familiarity could be achieved by holding training classes complemented by practical trainings during drills. Any such training classes and drills shall be properly recorded.
- 4- Frequent drills are held on board to improve the familiarity of the crew with practical operation of emergency equipment on board. Drills give ship's crew the opportunity to gain experience and confidence in the use of emergency equipment and work in co-operation with each other. Any such drills shall be properly recorded.

You are requested to confirm receipt, discuss the contents & explain their purpose in the next consolidated meeting on board & keep a copy in the file DA-11 .

Best Regards,
Capt. M.A.Abrishami