

TEAMWORK SAVES LIVES

Posted on 12.10.2023 by Adam Parnell



Category: [General Maritime](#)

Edition MFB 72

Editorial

CHIRP has recently received reports from across the maritime sector, and we reflect this in the variety of incidents published in this edition. Although each incident is unique, they all agree that a proactive approach to safety, adherence to guidelines, effective communication and continuous training are essential to preventing incidents.

We start with a potentially hazardous situation that was averted by the quick response of a vigilant and alert crew. The incident also raises questions the adequacy of berth assessments, and underlines the significance of proper mooring system design and maintenance.

CHIRP was contacted by a shore-based contractor who frequently participates in lengthy sea trials. Concerned that fatigue could lead safety incidents, they sought CHIRPs intervention to resolve the situation.

Lithium-ion batteries (LIBs) fires in containers pose serious risks. We report on one incident that reinforces the need for accurate cargo declaration, proper packaging, and adherence to guidelines for the safe carriage of dangerous goods. More generally, improper stowage practices can lead to cargo damage and hazards, and we discuss why compliance with the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code and the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing is necessary

to prevent accidents and protect crew, vessels, and the environment.

Sub-aqua diving safety comes under scrutiny following an incident in which a diver was seriously injured by a propeller. We explain why the use of Surface Marker Buoys (SMBs) and shot lines are recommended to improve visibility and coordination during diving operations.

A vessel's response to an engine failure highlights the need for timely assessment and familiarity with emergency controls. Effective collaboration between bridge and engine teams and the importance of experienced decision-making during emergencies is underscored. Finally, a lucky rescue of a single-handed fisher who had fallen overboard reveals several good safety lessons, including the importance of wearing flotation devices and personal locator beacons (PLBs), carrying means of communication, and implementing self-rescue measures such as ladders.

Remember – your feedback on our FEEDBACK is vital! And keep those reports coming! Sharing your experiences with us directly helps improve maritime safety for others who learn from your incidents.

Sail Safe,

Your CHIRP Maritime Team



