

“Don’t Cure, Prevent!”

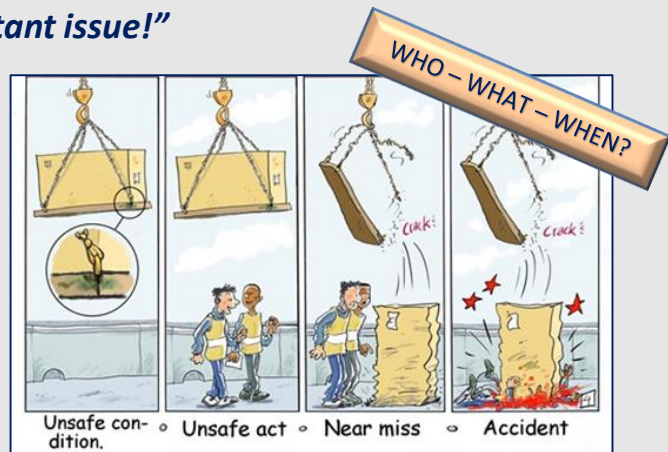
PaSea Circular 02/2017

Subject: “Near - Miss reporting – An important issue!”

Case

When the vessel was at anchorage and receiving stores, the supplies had not been properly secured causing some of them to fall on deck. The crew members engaged in the operation were not wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the deck area dedicated for this task was not appropriately secured.

→ **THIS IS A NEAR - MISS & IT SHOULD BE REPORTED!**



What is a Near - miss?

Near - miss is defined by the IMO as the sequential happenings that haven’t resulted in loss and/or injury but has the risk to do so. Mentioned loss has been prevented by a fortunate break in the chain of events (*IMO MSC-MEPC.7/Circ.7, 2008*). A near-miss can occur due to unsafe working conditions, unsafe work habits of the crew members on board, improper use of equipment or use of malfunctioning equipment.

How can the Company encourage crew members to participate in Near Miss reporting?

The **ISM Code** requires that hazardous situations are to be reported to the Company, investigated and analyzed in order to prevent future happenings. **Near-miss reporting** is very important in this respect as, near-misses are believed to represent experiences and mistakes that should be shared and to learn from them in order to prevent bigger accidents.

TMSA 8.1.1 “The fleet operator has procedures that ensure prompt reporting and investigation of all incidents, accidents and near misses.”

Report All Near Misses



Checking A Near Thing Can Prevent The Real Thing!

- The Company should establish clear policies and procedures for near miss reporting.
- All seafarers and Company’s employees should be familiar with the reason why near miss reporting is a necessity for a safe working environment, the important role that they play and the process for reporting.
- The near miss reporting system should be easy to understand and use.
- The importance of near miss reporting should be continuously communicated amongst the crew members.
- Communicate to the fleet that near miss reporting is non-punitive.
- Consider incentives that encourage reporting and enhance the safety culture.
- Acknowledge the effort and value of the near miss reporting process.

Which are the benefits of a successful near – miss reporting system?

- ☑ Enables companies to pro-actively resolve hazards before an incident occurs
- ☑ Engages the seafarers in problem solving on board
- ☑ Increases the notion of safety culture on board
- ☑ Exposes valuable information that otherwise might not be apparent
- ☑ It teaches crew members to "spot" unsafe actions and conditions. This boosts safety awareness, which in turn affects the way seafarers act
- ☑ It enables sharing of the lessons taking place. What is learned from a near miss can be prevented from happening in the future

'Accident prevention starts from near miss reporting'

Prevention at sea can undertake to:

- ⇒ Design, monitor and follow up a Near Miss Campaign
- ⇒ Review the Company's current safety procedures, the near miss reporting process and make proposals for the optimization of this process in accordance with the Company's needs
- ⇒ Design Posters, compile 'Lessons Learnt'
- ⇒ Deliver training revolving around the notion of Near Miss reporting and/ or design
- ⇒ Produce a Near Miss introduction video
- ⇒ Undergo Risk Assessment Audits and Behavioral Based Audits
- ⇒ Deliver detailed report of findings enclosing KPIs, statistical analysis and suggestions/proposals

For more information do not hesitate to contact us!

Prevention at Sea Ltd.

52, Arch. Makariou III Av., 6017 Larnaca

Tel.: +357 24 819800

Fax: +357 24 819881

Email: info@preventionatsea.com.cy

Website: www.preventionatsea.com