

## CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS



- HELMET ELEMENT 12 ‘Security’ – Item 9 ‘Cyber Security & Data Protection’
- The Guidelines on Cyber Security Onboard Ships (Version 4)
- VIQ – Section 7.14 – 7.17 (Cyber Security)
- TMSA – Element 13, Section 13.2.3 – 13.2.4

**INCIDENT:** During an onboard Navigational Audit, the PAS Assessor noticed that the access passwords of the ship’s computers were placed next to the workstations. During the in-person interviews, it was evidenced that the vessel’s personnel was not aware of the potential risks of such action.

### IMPORTANCE OF CYBER BREACH PREVENTION

Cyber attackers may attempt to access the company or ship systems and data in order to install malware, steal confidential information or take control of critical equipment.

### SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- Use only designated USB sticks
- Perform a scan for viruses / malware before connecting them to onboard OT and other networked systems.
- Do not connect personal laptops, tablets, USB sticks or phones to onboard operational systems.
- Do not hesitate to report or request assistance from the PIC for IT and OT assistance.
- Report suspicious or unusual problems experienced on IT<sup>1</sup> and OT<sup>2</sup> systems.
- Set complex passwords with num6er5s, \$ymb0!s, and some CaPITaL letters.
- Never disclose your user name and password.
- Check the email address before you open an email or attachment even if the sender is someone you trust.

### SUGGESTIONS

- Establish contingency plans to effectively respond to identified cyber risks.
- Ensure that seafarers are aware of the Company’s Security Management Plan (CSMP) procedures.
- Carry out a risk assessment to identify vulnerable and critical electronic systems subject to internal or external cyber threats.
- Familiarize seafarers and visitors with the process to follow, once important OT systems do not work.
- Think before you share information on social media or your personal email regarding your company, ship or the crew

<sup>1</sup>IT: Information Technology  
<sup>2</sup>OT: Operational Technology