

## Carisbrooke Shipping Fleet Memoranda

### TSM 1: Securing of Free-Fall Lifeboats

To: All Officers and Crew

Date: 07 July 2010

Department: Technical and Safety

Approval: Margrete A Marshall

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It has come to our attention that many of our vessels are sailing with Free Fall Lifeboats that are unable to be immediately launched because additional securing is left permanently in place.

Such fixings may be the strops intended to secure the boat for maintenance purposes or improvised arrangements comprising of chains and shackles. Please see the attached pictures for guidance.

**THESE ADDITIONAL SECURING ARRANGEMENTS MUST ALWAYS BE REMOVED, BEFORE THE SHIP PROCEEDS TO SEA,** to ensure the Free Fall Lifeboat is ready for immediate use.

The requirement of removing additional fixings specifically and only applies to the types that are intended for maintenance only, or have been added for some other reasons.

Where launching appliances on some ships may have additional fixings incorporated into their design, these will be included in the operating instructions available onboard and capable of release from inside the Free Fall Lifeboat, or in some cases preclude access until removed. These types of fittings must NOT be removed.

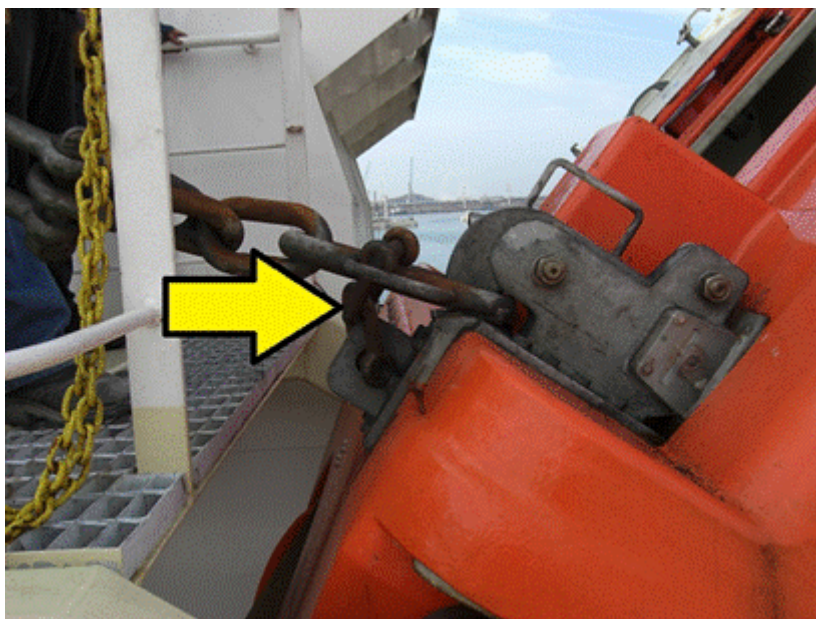
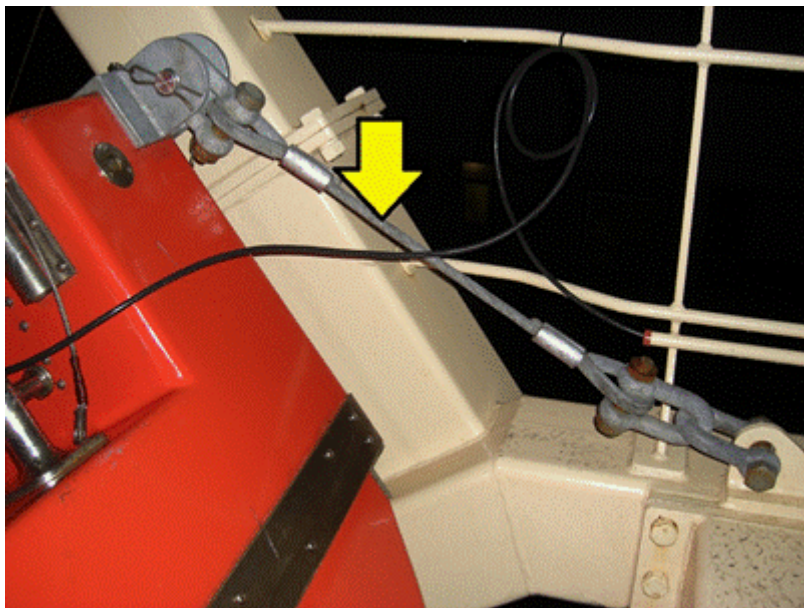
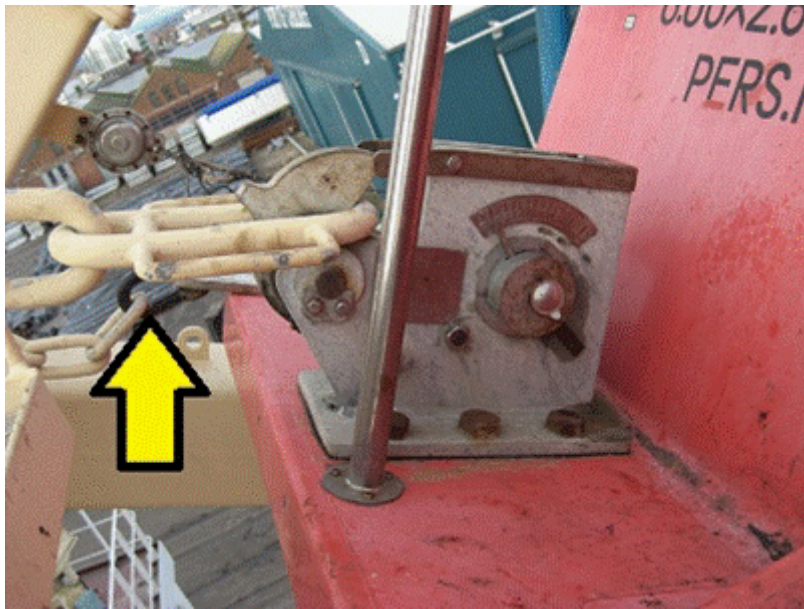
Permanent securing arrangements that are not incorporated into the release mechanism are in contravention of international requirements. SOLAS requires immediate readiness of the Free Fall Lifeboat and that it is operated in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Non-compliance with SOLAS can result in Port- or Flag state deficiencies.

Please note that, if the boat was boarded in an emergency and the release hook operated without removing any additional fixings, it is likely that it would be impossible to recover the Lifeboat and rectify the situation. The Lifeboat would then be rendered unusable. Alternatively, the points where such permanent fittings are attached could be torn from the boat and it may therefore launch with holes in the hull.

It is IMPORTANT to also note that whenever maintenance is carried out on the lifeboat and its launching appliance, and when boarded in connection with drills or other training, the Free Fall Lifeboat MUST be secured for safety reasons. At these times it is, of course, correct to use additional purpose made fixings such as maintenance strops and connecting the crane hook.

Always refer to manufacturer's manuals for details.

If you have any questions, please contact the technical department.





 File Attachment