

Date
17 December 2008

Our reference
070206/08/22948

Your date

Your reference

Directorate General of Shipping
Joint Director General
Walchand Hirachand Marg
Ballard Estate
Mumbai 400 00
India

Dear Sir,

It has come to the knowledge of the Swedish Maritime Safety Inspectorate that someone is producing counterfeit copies of the Swedish Hammar H20 hydrostatic releases for liferafts. To an untrained eye the copies look almost identical with the original product, with Hammar's logo and address on the labels, but there is, however, one very important difference: the copies do not work.

A ship-owner has recently purchased a number of Hammar H 20 hydrostatic releases from a ship chandler in Mumbai, India. The products came in boxes marked CM Hammar AB, Gothenburg, Sweden. The ship-owner tested the releases and lowered five of them into the water; only one of the hydros actually cut the line. They contacted CM Hammar AB in order to alert the company regarding the malfunction of the releases. The company asked them to return the faulty products, and when they arrived it was discovered that the products were not manufactured by the company. The ship-owner also returned five releases still in their boxes. The company have tested them, and not one worked properly according SOLAS specification (if they worked at all) and the LSA Code 4.1.6.

The Swedish Maritime Administration is very concerned about this situation. There may be a number of ships sailing with counterfeit hydrostatic releases. It is of utmost importance to find out who the manufacturer of these products is, and make him stop production and sale. The only lead to the producer, which the Swedish Maritime Administration has, is that the products were purchased at

INTERNATIONAL SHIPS' STORES SUPPLIERS

101, 'Navratan Building' 69
P.D 'Mello* Road, 1st floor, Carnac Bunder
MUMBAI – 400 009. INDIA
Phone: 91-22-23440057
Fax: 91-22-23439719

We ask for your kind assistance in this matter to obtain, if possible, more information regarding the origin of the counterfeit products. Please, do not

Postal address	Visiting address	Telephone	Telefax	E-mail
SE-601 78 Norrköping SWEDEN	Östra Promenaden 7	+46 11 19 10 00	+46 11 23 99 34	inspektion@sjofartsverket.se

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hesitate to contact our LSA-expert Roland Eklöf who can be reached at his e-mail address roland.eklof@sjofartsverket.se.

Yours sincerely,



Johan Franson
Director of Maritime Safety

Cc

Pia Berglund
Roland Eklöf
Andreas Holmgren
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CM HAMMAR, GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN

SAFETY ALERT – DANGEROUS H2O FAKE COPIES!

It has recently come to our attention that someone is producing fake copies of our Hydrostatic Release Unit, the Hammar H2O. To an untrained eye, the copy is almost identical to the original product, with Hammar's logo and address on the labels. The fake might look almost like the original product, but there is one very important difference: **the copy does not work!**

We have tested several of the copies. Not a single one of them worked properly according to SOLAS' specification – **the fake H2O will definitely not release a life raft or an Epirb**. We see this as a very serious situation. There can be a number of ships at sea that are sailing with fake Hydrostatic Release Units. If any of these ships were to sink, there will definitely be no life rafts or Epirbs that will help to rescue the seafarers in danger!

How can you quickly check that you have the original Hammar H2O?

- Always purchase your products through approved distributors or authorised service points for life rafts and Epirbs
- Make sure that you receive the Hammar multilingual product manual and a raft label with each unit for life raft H2O or Hammar marking instruction for Epirb H2O. (Pic 1)
- If you check on the underside of the Hammar H2O you should be able to find 5 (five) fabrication marks on all units produced since April 2006. Units produced before that date have only 2 (two) fabrication marks. (Pic 2)
- The serial number and production date can always be verified by contacting CM Hammar at info@cmhammar.com. (Pic 2)
- The fabrication mark on the upper side of the unit must always point directly towards the rope. (Pic 3)

Pic. 1



H2O unit with the multilingual product manual and raft label

Pic. 2

Serial number



Fabrication mark

Pic. 3



Fabrication mark

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact us.

HAMMAR®

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