

Marine Safety Forum – Safety Flash 10/12

Issued: 11th May 2010

Subject: CO2 Systems Safety Pins

Incident

During an annual certification of critical equipment on a vessel, a contractor identified the safety pins used for transporting and disabling the system on the CO2 Cylinders had not been removed from the valves. This matter was brought to the attention of the Master on the bridge who subsequently removed the pins and informed the company via an incident report form for the identified near miss (see attached photo).

Findings

- The CO2 system is inoperable whilst the pins are in position.
- The pins are normally installed in the cylinder as a safety device during the transportation installation and testing phases. They must be removed to commission the system.
- The deficiency had not been identified in the vessel critical safety equipment inspections.
- This specific deficiency had not been identified in the audits carried out on board.



Safety pins in position. These MUST be removed for the system to function

Recommendations

- Every vessel master to immediately attend the CO2 room and personally ensure the vessel has a fully operational system and that no safety pins have been left in the valves. Verification of the check and location of the pins (in or out) when inspected to be forwarded to QHSE as soon as the inspection is completed.
- All vessel masters are immediately requested to arrange a safety moment on the bridge to highlight the importance of reporting deficiencies so we can ensure the vessels are safe.
- Crew are encouraged to constantly search for hazards and deficiencies, reporting them via the hazard report system. If the hazard is identified as high risk, the master is to complete a near miss report and forward to vessel management for action.
- This near miss is a timely reminder for everyone to be attentive to safety, diligent in the inspections, complete PMS and fire rounds and make sure all deficiencies are reported. The more eyes we have looking the safer our working environment will be.

Think First-Think Safety

Take care and make every day a safe day