

RVOC Safety Committee

May 16, 2023

University of Minnesota - Duluth

Opening

- Call to Order and Welcome – Jeff Garrett
- Introductions
- RVOC Chair Comments – Doug Baird
- Safety Committee Agenda – Jeff Garrett

Committee Meeting Agenda

- 0905 Safety committee actions since April 2022 meeting – Jeff Garrett
- 0910 RVSS Waivers granted since last meeting – Jeff Garrett
- 0915 Status of pending revisions to Appendix A, RVSS – Jeff Garrett/SMEs:
- 0940 Review of recent Mishaps
- *Kilo Moana* smoke in galley (inport) – Andy Nottberg
 - *Revelle* wire parting (wire supplied by science party)
- 1015 Metric measurements in the RVSS – changes needed?
- 1030 Equipment issues:
- Funding for new SCBA kits
 - Deck socket tester – presentation at RVOC meeting
 - Immersion suits: sizing challenges for all members of science parties
- 1130 Safety issues identified by NSF Inspection Team – Blake Powell
- 1200 Break for Lunch
- 1300 Any additional issues that merit review by the Safety Committee
- Can the Committee and RVSS could better support the community?
 - Need for a full/part-time safety position in UNOLS?
- 1400 Update of Safety Committee Charge
- 1500 Safety Committee Membership review – Jeff Garrett
- 1600 Meeting concludes

Accomplishments since April 2022 Meeting

- Received and considered 5 RVSS waiver requests:
 - Aug 22 – *Kilo Moana*: 9/16” wire on .680” sheaves; **granted**
 - Sept 22 - *Thompson*: 9/16” wire on .680” sheaves; **granted**
 - Dec 22 – Fleet-wide: VMP-500 Profiler; **granted** (USCG exemption based on low tension)
 - Jan 23 – *Atlantis*: 9/16” wire on .680” sheaves; **not needed**
 - May 23 – *M G Langseth*: 9/16” wire on .680” sheaves; **granted**
- Extensive continued work on multiple RVSS Appendix A revisions

Status of Pending Revisions to Appendix A

- Application of App. A to shipboard tension members:
Appendix title and Section A.0
 - Update of guidance on rotating sheave groove sizes:
Tables A.8. and A.8.4
 - Inclusion of guidance for use of synthetic tension members:
Sections A.5.3, A.5.7, A.8.3 and new Table A.8.5
- Approval—or changes--by the committee

Review of Recent Mishaps

- *Kilo Moana* smoke in galley (inport) – Andy Nottberg
- *Revelle* wire parting (wire supplied by science party)
- Others?

Use of Metric Measurements in the RVSS

Do we need to make the RVSS all-metric?

A quick review shows:

- Throughout: vessel length in feet (CFR and statutory designations)
- 3.3: Displacement tonnage – long or imperial tons, but metric equivalent noted
- 3.3: Nautical miles – metric equivalent noted
- 9.4: Emergency showers & eyewash in gpm
- 10.2: Fume hoods in linear feet per minute
- 16.3.1.5: psi (from CFR)
- 16.4.2: Engine power in hp
- 16.4.3: Hydrants/hose sizes in inches
- 17.2.3: Line length in feet and meters
- 17.4.6: Water temps in degrees F and C
- Appendix A: Line tensions in lbs; wire & sheave dimensions in inches
- Appendix B: Force in lbf

Equipment Issues

- New SCBA kits
- Deck socket tester – presentation at RVOOC
- Immersion suit sizes
- Other equipment issues?

Safety Issues Identified in NSF Inspections

--Blake Powell

Additional Items for Committee Discussion?

- Need for a full-time/part-time safety position in UNOLS?
- How can the Safety Committee and the RVSS better support UNOLS?
- Other Issues?

Safety Committee Terms of Reference - Current

Research Vessel Operators Committee

Safety Committee Terms of Reference- Effective: April 29, 2015

Charge of Safety Committee

To provide a forum for the formulation, review, and recommendation for the approval of the UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards (RVSS) for the UNOLS fleet through the Research Vessel Operators Committee, (RVOC).

Members

1. Voting Members- Committee will consist of 10 members, representing the UNOLS class of vessels; global, ocean, regional, local, as well polar, regulatory, and RVTEC.
2. UNOLS Community Members, including federal agencies are welcome to attend Safety Committee meetings and to observe as non-voting participants.
3. UNOLS Subject Matter Experts- non-voting, expertise as needed, invited by committee

Term limits- 3 year with a possible 3 year renewal

Reporting- This will remain the same, that is to report to RVOC

Meetings- Twice a year to include RVOC as before. Periodic tele-conferences will be held as needed.

Safety Committee Terms of Reference – Draft Update

Research Vessel Operators Committee

Safety Committee Terms of Reference *(Updated xx May 2023)*

Charge to the Safety Committee

As part of the Research Vessel Operators Committee (RVOC), to provide a continuing forum for:

- Maintaining the UNOLS Research Vessel Safety Standards (RVSS) for the Academic Research Fleet (ARF), through updates and revisions as required. Changes to the RVSS will be forwarded through RVOC and to the UNOLS Council for approval.
- Considering requests for waivers of RVSS requirements, with approval or disapproval by the Committee as appropriate.
- Discussion of mishaps and other current safety issues relevant to the ARF.
- Providing advice to UNOLS funding agencies on safety issues.

Membership

Voting Members. The committee will normally consist of ten members, with the objective of wide representation of the various classes ARF vessels, operating institutions, the Research Vessel Technical Committee (RVTEC), and other oceanographic research and maritime expertise. The Committee will select new and renewing members

Safety Committee Subject Matter Experts. Non-voting advisors, who are invited to Committee meetings and can advise the Committee as appropriate.

Other interested persons. Representatives from UNOLS members, Federal agencies and other interested persons are welcome to attend Safety Committee meetings and to observe as non-voting participants.

Term limits – Three years with renewal as needed.

Reporting – The Safety Committee will report to the Chair of RVOC.

Meetings – At least annually, usually in conjunction with annual RVOC meetings.

Membership Status

1. Chair: Jeff Garrett – 2015–2024
2. Jon Swallow/UDEL – 2015–2024
3. Quentin Lewis/BIOS – 2016-2024
4. Christopher Peterson – 2016-2022
5. Doug Baird/UAF – 2018–2024
6. Kerry Strom/WHOI – 2018-2024
7. Matt Durham/SIO, RVTECH Rep. – 2019-2025
8. Stewart Lamerdin/prev. VIMS – 2022-2025
9. Drew Cole/prev. SIO – 2021-2024
10. Ash Hayden/URI – 2021-2024

Subject Matter Experts:

Aaron Davis/SIO
Rick Trask/WHOI
Josh Eaton/WHOI

Back-up Slides

Definitions

U.S. Academic Research Fleet: *Vessels scheduled through the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS)*

Federal Oceanographic Fleet:

- *U.S. Academic Research Fleet*
- *National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) research and survey fleet*
- *U.S. Coast Guard polar icebreakers*
- *Vessels chartered by the National Science Foundation (NSF)*

[May 2013 Federal Oceanographic Fleet Status Report]