

Safety Committee Meeting

4/13/09 7:28 AM

Participants

- Tom Althouse
- Steve Lanoux
- Bill Byam
- Ron Harelstad
- Dan Oliver
- Sam DeBow
- Pete Zerr
- Rich Findley

Here is my tentative agenda. Anyone have desired additions?

1. Safe Working Loads – Appendix A
2. Alternate Specification for Over the Side Handling Equipment – App. B
3. MedAire Procedures and service
4. Refusal of personnel to follow medication recommendations by MedAire
5. RVSS change procedures to keep document current
6. New regulations requiring inclusion in RVSS
7. Should the Safety Training Video be upgraded
8. Chapter 1 Safety Training Manual applicability/revision

Meetings:

Discussion of Safety Committee Meeting procedures.

- Meeting the day before RVOC and Web Conferencing as needed.

Review of RVSS:

- Discussion about the process of review and updates to the RVSS. The RVSS states that there should be a review periodically and not later than three years.
- Our current plan is to update chapters one at a time when appropriate. The current version of the RVSS includes a record of changes by chapter/appendix.
- We have not delineated what the actual procedures will be going forward. Suggestion is that chapters will be reviewed when information, changes to regulations, etc. come to our attention and then incorporate changes if needed and republish the chapter.

- The other suggestion is that there be a process in place that requires a review of a certain number of chapters each year, such that every chapter and appendix has been reviewed at least once every five years and republished if needed.
- Recommendation that the NSF inspection report and the operator response specifically address any issues or problems related to RVSS.
- Recommendation that we put in place a formal process and perhaps web form for reporting needed changes to the RVSS – Inform the RVOC and RVTEC.

MedAire Procedures and Service

- No problems, some operators are looking at going to the pre-packaged medical supplies. Some concern about the cost and to what extent the packages can be customized for smaller vessels.
- Formally poll the Marine Superintendents during the roundtable to make sure there are no issues with the Medaire contract before Jon has to renew in July.

Refusal of personnel to follow medication recommendations by MedAire

- Case where a member of the science party refused to take medication prescribed by the Medaire physicians.
- What are the options
 - Can you get them to sign a form to say they will take prescribed medications.
 - Put them ashore if they refuse? Who pays?
- Discussion about medical screening procedures. Do we need to be more pro-active?
 - SIO has a form called “Physical ability to work at sea”, which goes to the Chief Scientist that has an obligation to discuss any concerns they have with the Captain in order to prevent any problems to the science program as the result of the information on the forms.
- Do we need to re-evaluate medical procedures within the fleet.
 - We have MEDAIRE
 - We have medical supplies

- We have some trained personnel
- We have medical condition forms, releases, etc. but nothing standard.
- Screening processes for crew and techs vary by institution.
- Recommendation that RVOC appoint a small group to formally evaluate our processes and procedures related to medical screening of science parties and crew, and medical procedures in general. The group would recommend any needed changes.

Should the Safety Training Video be upgraded

- URI and SIO use the video.
 - URI shows it to the entire video.
 - SIO shows it in the classroom before the student cruises – good idea for MLML.
- Video was created in 1998
- JMS produced the video.
- Recommendation that we plan for changes and update to the safety training manual and then put together a cost proposal.
- List of recommended changes:
 - Shorten from the 20 minutes to 10 or less.
 - Make the format compatible with You Tube, Video players, etc. post on the web.
 - Factual problems
 - Hand on the door to check for heat.
 - No Hard Hats
 - No Life Vests
 - Alcohol policy statement
 - Should have a complete physical statement
 - Breathing apparatus in each stateroom? Yes?

Chapter 1 Safety Training Manual applicability/revision

- Does the Chapter One need to be updated.
 - Change the name and take away the reference to the Safety Training Manual
 - No more current copies of Chapter One

- Web Version is just text.
- Create a more visually dramatic and interesting document and make it readily available.
- Recommendation that in conjunction with updating the video that Chapter One be updated and revised to create a safety briefing document for scientists.
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Army Smoke Generators

- We will submit a list of questions and concerns back to Bob Bluth – Mike do this.
- Questions and concerns
 - What type of fuel being is being used?
 - What other chemicals are involved?
 - Quantity to be brought on board.
 - Safety precautions for the fuel and generator
 - How will the generator and fuel storage tanks be attached to the ships.
 - How do we prevent oil spill? (they must be reported)
 - Who will operate and be responsible for the smoke generator?
 - Health risks and protective gear needed
 - Emergency procedures – fire, malfunction
 - How long is the cruise?
 - What the duration of each episode of using the generator.
 - Precautions for changes of wind direction.
 - How is the amount of the smoke and particulate content controlled – how much will there be.
 - Environmental permitting requirements and issues.
 - What is the purpose of the experiment?

Appendix A – Safe Working Load

- Educational programs and collaboration towards implementing the new standards.
 - Check lists
 - Training program syllabus
 - Group purchases

Appendix B – Load Handling Systems

- Glosten to present some recommendations for revision to Appendix B.
- Review new draft standard
- Determine what is needed to approve this appendix.

Membership and Chair of RV Safety Committee

- Nominated Dan Oliver to be Chair of the committee
- Membership if fine, but ask if there are others interested.
- Membership now includes
 - Dan Oliver – Chair
 - Bill Byam – UDEL
 - Steve Lanoux – UT
 - Sam DeBow - URI
 - Ron Harelstad – BIOS
 - Paul Ljunggren – LDEO
 - Pete Zerr – OSU – RVOC Chair
 - Rich Findley – RSMAS – RVTEC Chair