University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System

~UNOLS~

Status of UNOLS-RVSS Appendix B
Overboard Handling System
Council Mtg- 29 Nov.
FIC Mtg- 30 Nov.
Current Status of Appendix B - November 2017

Past:

Council Meeting- November 30, 2016
Open discussion on Appendix B- Overboard Handling System Design Standards and Criteria for the Design and Operation of Overboard Handling Systems

• Discussion & Motion passed to suspend implementation of Appendix B as written in RVSS, pending further study
• Safety Committee should revise safety standards

UNOLS Safety Committee has met several times over past year
• Surveyed fleet’s level of compliance
• Safety Committee considered objectives of Appendix B
• Safety Committee should propose with appropriate technical assistance a revised Appendix B.
Current Path Forward:

Title -46 Code of Federal Regulation- CFR Subpart 189.35 Weight Handling Gear

Key Points of CFR

• Due to special nature of oceanographic research vessel operations, it is intended that maximum flexibility be given to the owner or operator

• Wet Gear shall be designed to withstand and operate in excess of the break strength of the strongest section of wire to be used, with a safety factor of 1.5.

• An installation test and safety assessment shall be conducted

• Test should consist of exercising the equipment as a unit with a proof load 25 % in excess of the equipment’s normal working load

• Suitability of the equipment for the service intended will be emphasized
Present:

Draft of Appendix B, dated 14 November, under review

Table of Contents

- Objective and Approach
- Acronyms and Definitions
- Basis and Scope of Application
- Overboard Handling System Design
- Installation, Initial Testing and Labelling
- Routine Overboard Handling System Testing
- Documentation
- Training of Operators
- Responsibilities
Going Forward:

• Review of draft Appendix B by all stakeholders
• Then proceed into promulgation process and adoption in RVSS