

Safety Committee Update

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- Appendix A Waiver Requests
 - Working on an update to Appendix A that will allow sufficient flexibility so that such waiver requests are less likely to be needed
- RVSS Update – 11th Ed.
 - Clean up of terminology, references, outdated information, redundancies, etc.
 - Potential inclusion of UNOLS policy – Chartering & use of non-UNOLS Vessels

RVSS Waiver Requests Considered

Work continues on updates to the Research Vessel Safety Standards (RVSS), with the objective of producing a new edition of the manual.

The committee processed a number of RVSS waiver requests in the last year. All involved reduced factor of safety technical requirements in Appendix A, but were considered to involve no risk to personnel:

- Sept 2019 – *R/V Thompson*, Sheave grooving larger than overboard wire – waiver granted.
- Sept 2019 – *R/V Thompson*, Sheave grooving larger than overboard wire – waiver granted.
- Oct 2019 – *R/V Atlantic Explorer*, Diameters for winch sheaves & level-wind rollers undersized – waiver granted for 2-3 years until a planned winch overhaul, allowing an ongoing CTD program; funding requested.
- Nov 2019 – *R/V Atlantis*, Sheave grooving larger than overboard wire – waiver granted.
- Jan 2020 – *R/V Sally Ride*, Sheave grooving larger than overboard wire – waiver granted.
- June 2020 – *R/V Thompson*, Sheave grooving larger than overboard wire – waiver granted for oversized sheave grooving; not granted for undersized sheave grooving.
- Oct 2020 – *R/V Revelle*, Sheave grooving larger than overboard wire – waiver granted.

An update to Appendix A that could eliminate the need for most of these types of waivers is being drafted for consideration.