



# UNOLS Safety Committee Report

Research Vessel Operators Committee  
Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences  
Tuesday April 19, 2016



# TERMS OF REFERENCE

## 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 RVOC.

## Membership

1. Voting Members- 10 members, representing the UNOLS class of vessels; global, ocean, regional, local, as well polar, regulatory, and RVTEC
2. UNOLS Community Members, Federal Agency Reps, Observers all welcome
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, ie. report to RVOC

**Meetings-** Twice a year to include RVOC as before



# Accomplishments since May 2015 Meeting

- Revised RVSS approved by RVOC and published
- Committee terms of reference for membership implemented
- Waiver request procedures decided at 2015 meeting implemented with 3 waiver requests considered and acted on.
- Consideration of a formatted waiver request form and evaluation criteria

## **Safety Committee Outcomes from Monday 18 April 2016**

**Exemption process & evaluation criteria** – Reviewed for submission to RVOC for approval. When approved will be added to RVSS as a new appendix.

**Safety Committee membership** – call for nominations to fill (3) vacancies.

**Appendix B compliance effective July 15, 2016** – Discussed development of tools to assist in compliance with testing procedures. Appendix A training scheduled for May 2016 at WHOI, with a west coast workshop being planned. Appendix B training is being considered for a future workshop.

**UNOLS quarterly safety report summaries** – Discussed Safety Committee regular review to look for potential trends or areas of fleet wide concern.

**Fleet medical training** – After discussion, UNOLS Office to create and distribute survey requesting data on current medical training levels; further committee consideration of data when received.

**Lithium battery safety** – Discussed adequacy of RVSS section 9.4; UNOLS Office to research current standards for committee consideration of possible RVSS update & additional guidance for operators.



**Safety Committee Outcomes from Monday 18 April 2016  
(Continued)**

**LCI-90i winch display** - UNOLS Office to request RVTEC Chair to collect summaries of reported issues with LCI-90i winch display, and request company response.

**Group Purchase Suggestions to RVOC:**

- Alert-2 man overboard beacon system - Safety Committee endorsed
- Jason Cradle man-overboard recovery device - Chesapeake Bio Lab to purchase one system to test and provide feedback
- Wire cutter and weak link – Endorsed a group purchase for those that would like them on their ship

**Mid-year** meeting – Summer/fall telcon to provide update on all the action items above.