

#### HEALTH, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

#### **26.0 OPERATION OF HATCH COVERS**

ON THE JOB TRAINING

OJT: 026
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Date: 07-Nov-25
Rev: 10.1
Appr: DPA

VESSEL:	DATE :

# **<u>Details of Training:</u>** Operation of Hatch Covers

- Operation of hatch covers is not allowed without permission from duty officer or chief officer
- Duty officer or chief officer to be physically present on deck and supervise all hatch cover operation
- Operations to be carried out after proper communication has been established between the officer and crew
- Persons involved in opening/closing to be properly instructed/trained by chief officer
- Crew to be positioned with walkie-talkies to observe both sides of hatch during opening/closing
- All crew in attendance and supervising officer must stand clear of hatch covers
- Appropriate PPE to be worn
- In general opening hatch covers at sea or of anchorage, if vessel is rolling, must be avoided. For hold
  cleaning operations, open hatches for minimum possible time, and only if weather is favourable. Opening
  at sea must only be done with the permission of the Master (It may require altering course).
- Ensure vessel is not rolling /pitching or listed heavily when opening hatch covers
- Only one hatch to be opened /closed at a time
- Makers procedures for opening/closing hatches to be complied with
- Ensure deck is well illuminated
- Before opening or closing, officer shall take a proper round of all the sides of hatch and top of hatch cover and ensure area is kept well clear of crew / stevedores / obstructions / dunnage / lashing wires / cargo residues / objects like grabs etc as these could fall into hatch causing injury to crew or property damage
- All cleats, safety pins etc to be opened prior operating hatch covers and same shall be crosschecked by
  officer and crew involved in the operation (Ensure Cleats assembly have been painted using a distinct
  and contrasting colour)
- Ensure correct procedure is followed for starting the power unit. In cold weather hydraulic system, will need to be started earlier to warm up
- Ensure hydraulic system is operational with sufficient pressure and there are no leaks in the system
- Crew not to stand on moving hatch cover. Standby crew members shall be well clear of channels
- Crew opening/closing hatch cover must be alert and pay full attention
- Avoid opening/closing hatch covers in a hurry
- Check that the hatch cover wheels are moving freely
- Ensure hatch covers are secured with locking pin /stopper arm after opening
- When closing, ensure all debris, cargo residues etc. are fully removed from the track ways. Even small
  pieces of cargo trapped under the rubber packing can lead to the hatches not being weather tight. This
  could lead to major cargo claims.
- When closing, ensure tracks, drain channels and the drain non return valves are absolutely clear. Blocked valves / channels can lead to major claims if water gets into the hold.
- Record of opening /closing of hatch covers shall be maintained on board



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## Above has been read and understood.

Master:					
CO:					
20:					
30:					
D/C					
BOSUN					
AB					
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Verified by Master					
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Feedback:					