

Supplementary Paper for the 39th PLVAC meeting

Subject:- Draft Code of Practice for using protective clothing and equipment at work on vessels

This paper is to follow up the action for the 38th PLVAC meeting. The following are the suggested amendments to the relevant paragraphs of the Draft Code as recommended on the 38th meeting:-

5. Head Protection

5.1 Accident investigations into serious injuries to persons employed on vessels have revealed that many of them resulted in head injuries. Had they been wearing protective headgear, their injuries could be minimized.

5.2 Hence a person employed shall wear an appropriate safety helmet at work.

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5.3 Safety Helmet

5.3.1 Many accidents such as parting of a rope causing head injury are of a type difficult to control. Safety helmet should be worn at all times while at work. When a person employed is to have rest or carrying out clerical work inside the deck house (including accommodation), or inside a well protected crane driver's cabin where there is no unnecessary risk of head injury, he may put off his helmet. However, when the person employed gets out the deck house or the cabin, he should put on his safety helmet at once.

6. Safety Footwear

- 6.1 Foot injuries often result from wearing unsuitable footwear. Lashing bars, twist locks, wire rope slings, parts of dismantled machinery etc. may fall off and hit on the foot of a person employed at work. The steel deck of a vessel may become slippery when there are oil or grease stains. The container top may become slippery after rain. Hence suitable safety footwear such as *non-slippery* safety shoes should be worn while at work on deck, on container top, in cargo hold or in machinery space.
- 6.2 A safety footwear should be sturdy, with non-slippery soles and have adequate protection against impact for the toes. Canvas shoes and sport shoes, though non-slippery at certain conditions, are not considered as safety footwear for use at work onboard vessels. *Where there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of the injury to the sole of the foot of a person employed, such as employed in marine construction or ship repairing works, the safety shoes provided to the person employed should be equipped with steel soles.* The suitable standards of safety footwear are shown in Appendix 2: A2.2.

2.12.2005