

# Safety Alert

**Number: 21-01**

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**Subject: Air Cylinder Failure in Lifeboat**

## What Happened / Narrative

On the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at approximately 22:15, an air cylinder that was fitted within a Lifeboat structurally failed without any warning. No work had or was being conducted on or around the air cylinder. Three sub-contractors' personnel that were in the vicinity of the Lifeboat area **were impacted by the blast debris resulting in injuries.**

The three injured personnel were provided first aid treatment onboard by the medic and were then sent onshore that night for assessment by a local hospital and later released.

## Why Did it Happen / Cause

The investigation into this incident is currently ongoing. The two preliminary suspected causes which resulted in the cylinder failing are:

1. Galvanic corrosion between the cylinder material and the metal support frame leading to a weakness in the cylinder wall.
2. Cylinders submerged in bilge water for extended period leading to wall corrosion which could have then affected the integrity.

## Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

- Operators to ensure these cylinders are inspected annually for corrosion or wall damage by service providers.
- Operators to ensure the cylinders are hydrostatic tested at a required interval of five years.

## Photographs / Supporting Information



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