Safety Alert: Hyundai Lifeboats safety notice – ‘TALON II’ release hooks
Applicability: All shipowners and operators

Hyundai Lifeboats Co. Ltd. has issued a safety notice related to their release hook models TALON II 4.0 and 6.0. This has been issued because of an incident on board a vessel during a drill where an empty lifeboat was being lowered and one of the lifeboat’s TALON II hooks became detached from the davit fall master link (lifting ring).

The hook did not open during the incident and investigations carried out by the manufacturer pointed to the incident being caused by interference between the davit fall master link and the hook’s ‘self-closer’ (manual closer) when the boat hit the water in choppy conditions. The manufacturer has modified the design of the hook’s self-closer and the modifications have been tested and approved by Lloyd Register.

It is recommended to avoid lowering lifeboats fitted with the TALON II hooks into the water during drills, until the approved modifications can be completed. Also, as an interim measure, the manufacturer recommends that if lifeboats fitted with the TALON II hooks need to be launched, they are launched in the on-load condition. Another recommended interim measure is the use of foul-weather strops when recovering lifeboats fitted with these TALON II hooks.

The incident has highlighted the importance of the design of the lifeboat davit fall master link (which is usually supplied by the launching appliance manufacturer) and its interaction with the release hook.

What should owners and operators do now?
Owners and operators of vessels which have lifeboats fitted with release hook models TALON II 4.0 and 6.0 should contact the manufacturer and arrange for all necessary modifications to be carried out under survey. Owners should also check with the release hook manufacturer to confirm that the design of the davit fall link on their vessel is suitable for use with their lifeboat release hooks.
NOTICE LETTER

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DATE : 19. JULY. 2013
SERVICE ITEM : SELF LOCKER OF RELEASE HOOK (TALON II 4Ton & 6Ton)

One of lifeboat installed TALON II 4.0 hook recently had an experience unexpected occurrence that the self locker on hook was opened due to interference of davit link and choppy motion of boat and davit’s link at AFT hook was detached from hook when the lifeboat is on water (Off-load) during test. We, Hyundai Lifeboats, now are under investigation and estimate there is no possibility of occurrence at on-load condition but merely can happen it at off-load condition. (Self locker : Refer to 2nd page and Lifeboat Manual)

We, HLB, now are investigating the occurrence for TALON II 4 Ton & 6 Ton and make an effort to solve it. We will inform and supply the modified one as soon as we find the improvement

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Before we supply the improvement, all customers using lifeboat installed TALON II are requested to make lifeboat be at on-load condition in order not to be at off-load condition during davit test.
2. If the davit link is at off-load condition and detached from hook, reset the hook and proceed recovery process.

TEMPORARY MEASURES BEFORE REPLACEMENT OF NEW SELF LOCKER.

Please be informed that below procedure is a temporary solution before supplying improved new self locker and follow the above recommendations

1. Tie the pendant lug(1) and self locker(2) using cable tie [Figure 1]
2. Use cable ties on side like [Figure 3, 4] not to interfere with hook rotated when launched.
3. Check the safety pint(3) can be removed smoothly after tying cable ties. [Figure 1]
4. Do it like [Figure 3] when using cable ties and refer to below caution

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CAUTION

1. We recommend to tie the pendant lug and self locker on only Davit test
2. This temporary solution does not make any problems on launching lifeboat, but it can affect the failure of resetting the hook so firstly remove the cable ties and follow the reset procedure on hook reset
3. Do not use cable ties except for davit test
4. Keep and bring the tools for removing the cable ties and every crew should all aware of this procedure just in case.
5. Must check the connection condition of davit link and hook before recovery of the lifeboat.
6. If the davit link is in abnormal position, release the load on hooks, make the davit link to be in normal position and lift the lifeboat.[figure 2]

We sincerely apologize for inconvenience and will do our best for Customers’ satisfaction and safe.

SUNG NYUN, KIM
Chief Executive Officer
REFERENCE SELF LOCKER

[Figure 1]

1. Normal position

2. Abnormal position

[Figure 2]
TEMPORARY MEASURE

[Figure 3] [Figure 4]

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END