

MEMBER ALERT



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GOOD CATCH UPDATE: HEROIC ELECTRICIAN KEEPS ANCHOR LIGHTS BURNING BRIGHTLY (SMS REPORTING)

A poor repair can increase the risk of a collision and increase the potential confusion for other vessels maneuvering into and out of an anchorage. The safety management system should say when issues should be raised with the Chief Engineer or Chief Officer regarding concerns about the condition of equipment or systems onboard.

In this context, your Managers are pleased to present the latest animation instalment of the Club's *Good Catch* initiative:

- *Heroic Electrician Keeps Anchor Lights Burning Brightly (SMS Reporting)* available in [English](#), [new](#) and [traditional](#) Mandarin

GOOD CATCH from **The American Club**
Heroic Electrician Keeps Anchor Lights Burning Brightly
(SMS Reporting)

Description An electrician is being recognized by the entire crew as a hero after he figured out how to keep the forward anchor light burning brightly on an especially dark night.

In his dreams!

What actually happened was that since there was no electrician onboard, the vessel's third engineer was sent to investigate why the vessel's forward anchor light was out. He found the wiring in extremely poor condition. The insulation was missing in some areas and heavily cracked in others. The wire itself was shorted out against the side of the deck penetration. He made repairs using some wire he had in his tool belt and a lot of electrical tape. He then reported that the problem was fixed.

Two days later, with the vessel still at anchor, a Port State Control inspector observed the poor wiring and detained the vessel for an ISM deficiency. In the course of investigating the cause of the detention, the Chief Engineer and Master were upset that the third engineer's repair had been so poor. However, they were more upset that the third engineer had not recognized or reported the need for more permanent repairs consistent with the vessel's safety management system.

Actual Damage The physical damage to the vessel was minimal. However, the vessel was detained until the wiring was correctly repaired and an external ISM audit was conducted. The wiring was properly repaired for less than \$250.

GOOD CATCH Heroic Electrician Keeps Anchor Lights Burning Brightly (SMS Reporting) November 2022

Potential Damages A poor repair could have caused the forward anchor light to fall again. That would have increased the risk of a collision and increased the potential confusion for other vessels maneuvering into and out of the anchorage. Additionally, the poor electrical repair created an electrical shock hazard.

Prevention

- ★ How could this situation have been prevented from the outset?
- ★ What is expected on your vessel regarding how repairs should be made?
- ★ When should issues be raised with the Chief Engineer or Chief Officer regarding concerns about the condition of equipment or systems onboard?
- ★ What does your safety management system say about reporting problems?

When you identify a hazard before something goes wrong... **it's a Good Catch.**

When you stop an operation before something bad happens... **it's a Good Catch.**

When you identify that a more permanent repair is needed and report it appropriately... **that's a Good Catch, too!**

THE AMERICAN CLUB

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As a reminder, all *Good Catch* alerts and animations are posted at the Club's website at:

https://www.american-club.com/page/good_catch

Your Managers recommend that Members take note of this information and be guided accordingly.