



GOOD CATCH from **The American Club**

26th Layer of Paint Eliminates the Need for Bolts (Preventative Maintenance)

Description

Mariners have suspected for decades but only recently discovered (after much experimentation) that the 26th layer of paint on deck equipment entirely eliminates the need for maintenance work to prevent corrosion and further ensures that mounting bolts are tight and secure. They learned there is something almost magical about that 26th layer of paint that acts like a super adhesive while

thickly coating everything. Without the need for maintenance work, the crew has even more time for painting!

Don't believe that for a minute!

The crew on a general cargo vessel identified that the portside anchor winch was making an unusual noise while the anchor was being raised. An investigation by the engineers discovered that the corrosion between the anchor winch motor mount and the winch housing was so excessive that the motor pinion gear was out of alignment with the gear on the anchor winch. That gear misalignment was the source of the unusual noise.

The vessel operator arranged for a technical representative to visit the vessel. He confirmed that the motor pinion gear had been damaged from the misalignment, but that the anchor winch gear was still in good condition. He noted that repairs would also be required on the housing to rebuild the mount for the motor. He observed that long-term corrosion around the motor mount had been covered in numerous layers of paint which did nothing to preserve the steel but temporarily hid the problem visually.



Actual Damage

The motor pinion gear had to be replaced at a total cost of \$21,500. The additional cost to repair and rebuild the housing and motor mount was \$4,500.

Potential Damages

Had the problem not been caught when it was, the misalignment of the motor pinion gear could have caused major damage to the anchor winch gear. That would have increased the repairs costs by several times. Had the gears failed when the anchor was down, a deck crane would likely have been needed to raise the anchor. That would have been very expensive.

Prevention

- ★ Does your preventive maintenance program for deck equipment such as anchor winches include an inspection for excessive corrosion?
- ★ What should you do if tasked with painting but find the surface to be painted not properly prepared and heavily corroded?
- ★ What should you do when you discover any area of steel wastage while painting?

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 an area of excessive corrosion so that it can be properly corrected and not just painted over...

that's a Good Catch, too!



The American Club would like to specially thank [Independent Maritime Consulting, LLC](#) for their contribution to this document.



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