



NVIC 4-85 CH-2

OCT 1986

NAVIGATION AND VESSEL INSPECTION CIRCULAR NO. 4-85 CHANGE 2

Subj: Change 2 to NVIC 4-85 of 29 May 1985, Recalls and Other Corrective Measures for Lifesaving and Fire Protection Equipment

1. PURPOSE. This Circular updates Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circular No. 4-85, by adding new enclosures describing recent recall and corrective actions.
2. SUMMARY OF CHANGES. Enclosures (22) through (25) are added.
3. ACTION. Insert enclosures (22) CH-2, through (25) CH-2. Current enclosures are as follows:
 - a. Enclosure (2) CH-1, Recall of Gladding AF500, Model 3 Life Preservers.
 - b. Enclosure (4), Recall of Cal-June Model 450, Jim Buoy PFD Light.
 - c. Enclosure (5), Repair of Inflation Valves and Tubes on Certain Exposure Suits.
 - d. Enclosure (6), Recall of Datrex Emergency Drinking Water.
 - e. Enclosure (7), Discontinued Approval for Use of Certain Portable Lifeboat Radios in Totally Enclosed Lifeboats and Survival Capsules.
 - f. Enclosure (8), Use Limitations on Certain Hydraulic Releases.
 - g. Enclosure (10), Use of Lanyards on Class A EPIRBs.
 - h. Enclosure (12), Recall of Kent Sporting Goods Model 67 Life Preservers.
 - i. Enclosure (13), Recall of Switlik Inflatable Life Rafts.

DISTRIBUTION - SDL No. 124

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
A																										
B		2	10		3		3	1		5				132	1			1								
C					*		1					1	*													
D	1	1		1							1	*														
E		1											2	2	2											
F	1			1							1						1									
G																										
H																										

• NON-STANDARD DISTRIBUTION: (SEE PAGE 3)

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- j. Enclosure (14) CH-1, Retesting and Relabeling of Fitz-Wright Exposure Suits.
- k. Enclosure (15) CH-1, Modification of Titan Release Gear in Watercraft America Lifeboats.
- l. Enclosure (16) CH-1, Recall of Revere Emergency Drinking Water.
- m. Enclosure (17) CH-1, Recall of Revere Emergency Provisions.
- n. Enclosure (18) CH-1, Lubrication Fittings on Certain Mechanical Davit Pivot Pins.
- o. Enclosure (19) CH-1, Kilgore Proteus 2 Parachute Flares, Operation Notice.
- p. Enclosure (20) CH-1, Hose Replacement on Ansul Red Line Hand Portable Fire Extinguishers.
- q. Enclosure (21) CH-1, Incorrect Label on Safeguard and Safety First Supply Work Vests.
- r. Enclosure (22) CH-2, New Safety Pin for Viking Release Gear in Watercraft America Lifeboats.
- s. Enclosure (23) CH-2, Unauthorized Modifications to Whittaker Survival Capsule Launching Devices.
- t. Enclosure (24) CH-2, North & Judd Snaphooks on Certain PFDs.
- u. Enclosure (25) CH-2, Inflation Tube Mouthpieces on Survival International Exposure Suits.



W. J. SAWYER
Chief, Office of Marine Safety,
Coast Guard and Environmental Protection

- Encl:
- (22) New Safety Pin for Viking Release Gear in Watercraft America Lifeboats
 - (23) Unauthorized Modifications to Whittaker Survival Capsule Launching Devices
 - (24) North & Judd Snaphooks on Certain Life Preservers.
 - (25) Inflation Tube Mouthpieces on Survival International Exposure Suits.

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Non-Standard Distribution:

C:e Baltimore (45); Alameda (40); Port Arthur, Honolulu, Puget Sound (35); Miami, Mobile, Long Beach (25); Norfolk, Jacksonville, Portland OR (20); Boston, Portland ME, Charleston, Anchorage, Galveston, (15); Cleveland (12), Cincinnati, Louisville, Memphis, Nashville, Paducah, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Savannah, San Juan, Tampa, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Duluth, Milwaukee, San Diego, Juneau, Valdez (10); Providence, Huntington, Wilmington, Corpus Christi, Toledo (5).

C:m New Orleans (140); New York (70); Philadelphia (35); Houston (25); St. Ignace (5); Sturgeon Bay (4).

D:1 CG Liaison Officer MILSEALIFTCOMD M-65 STRAT MOB, CG Liaison Officer JUSMAGPHIL(1).

ZTC-68

New Safety Pin for Viking Release Gear in Watercraft America Lifeboats
Coast Guard Approvals 160.033/66/0, 160.033/66/1, and 160.033/66/2

1. PROBLEM. The safety pin for the Viking release gear operating handle used in certain Watercraft America lifeboats, can be accidentally inserted into the slot for the release handle trunnion, rather than the hole intended for the safety pin. If this is done, the release gear is not in a safe condition.
2. DISCUSSION. Watercraft America, Inc. has developed a modification to prevent the accidental insertion of the safety pin before the handle is in the fully closed position. Viking release gear with approval numbers 160.033/66/0, 160.033/66/1, and 160.033/66/2 must be modified by drilling out the safety pin hole and replacing the original safety pin with a larger one.
3. ACTION.
 - a. Vessel and MODU operators having Watercraft America lifeboats equipped with Viking gear having approval numbers 160.033/66/0, 160.033/66/1, or 160.033/66/2 shall make sure the release gear is modified in accordance with Watercraft America drawing SP204 dated May 2, 1986. The Coast Guard Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection shall be notified before the modification work begins. The drawing and instruction may be obtained from:

Watercraft America, Inc.
P.O. Box 1130
Edgewater, FL 32032
(904) 428-5781
Telex: 567415
 - b. Coast Guard inspectors will require modification of Watercraft America Viking release gear with approval numbers 160.033/66/0, 160.033/66/1, or 160.033/66/2 in accordance with the Watercraft America drawing and instruction.

Figure 1 of Enclosure(22) to NVIC 4-85 CH-2

Operating handle with sliding outer grip. Note cross plate that rests on Surface "A" in closed (locked) position of the release gear.

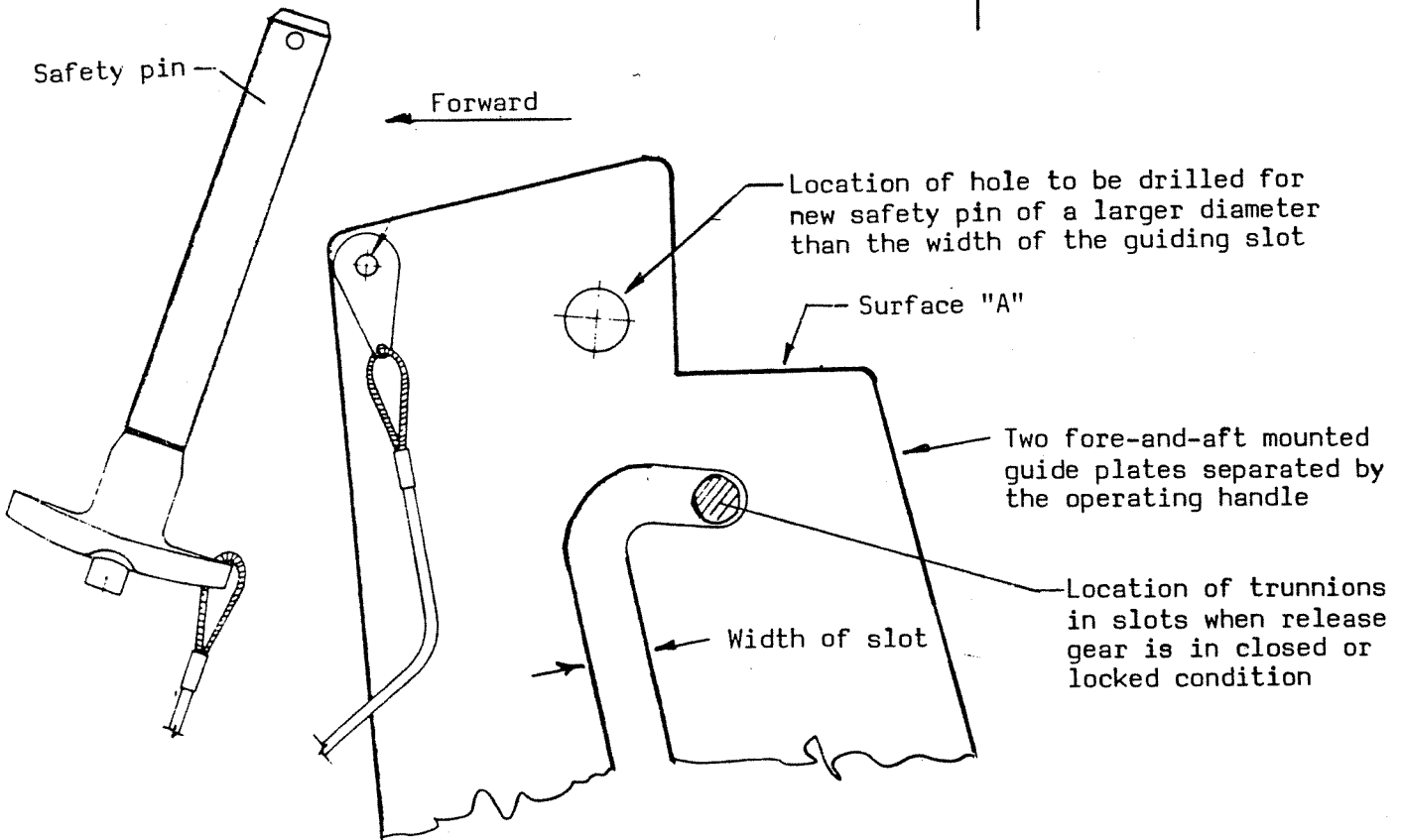
Sliding outer grip

NOTE: To open the release hooks, the operating handle is pulled upward from Surface "A" and pushed in the forward direction

Cross plate

Trunnions

Pull cables to hook release mechanism



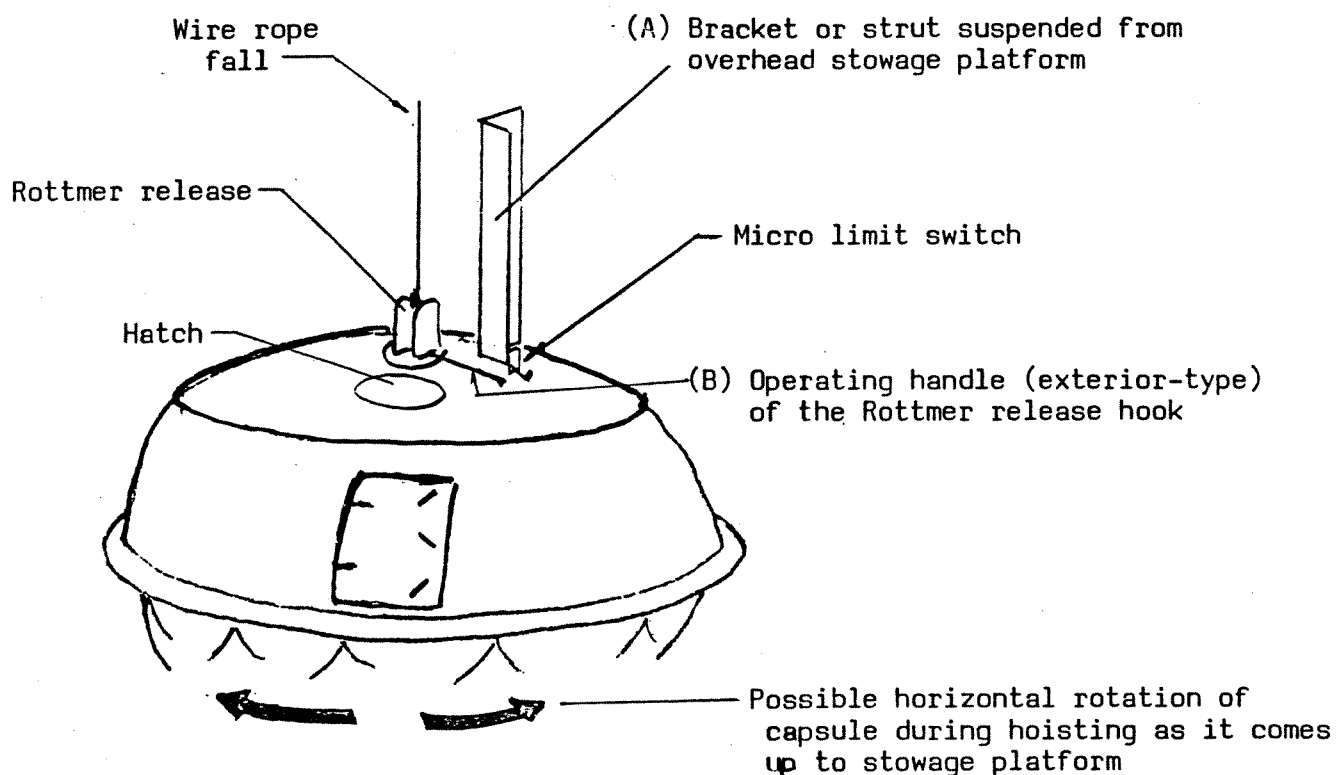
Inboard profile view of slotted plates for guiding the trunnions of the operating handle

Unauthorized Modifications to Whittaker Survival Capsule Launching Devices

1. PROBLEM: Some launching devices for Whittaker Survival capsules may have been modified by the unauthorized addition of brackets to hold microswitches or other devices added by the owner or operator.
2. DISCUSSION: The unauthorized modifications may appear to be almost identical to the brackets that hold the limit switches which are part of the approved launching system. If brackets are added and not carefully located, they can engage the cable and sector operating mechanism on those capsules equipped with Rottmer type hooks. This has happened on two separate occasions, resulting in the accidental opening of the hook and dropping of the capsule. Any person on board the capsule is at risk of being seriously injured.
3. ACTION: Servicing personnel and Coast Guard inspectors should make sure that any brackets on Whittaker capsule launching devices are part of the approved system or are approved modifications. Generally, the only brackets coming close to the surface of the capsule should be those holding the limit switches which prevent the capsule from being winched into the stops under motor power. Any others should be considered suspect, unless the owner or operator can show that they are approved additions. Any unauthorized modifications of this type must be removed. Questions on whether or not such brackets are approved can be answered by the manufacturer:

Whittaker Corp.
Survival Systems Division
5159 Baltimore Drive
LaMesa, CA 92041
(619) 469-0171
Telex: 695440

Figure 1 of Enclosure(23) to NVIC 4-85 CH-2



NOTE: The above arrangement has the danger of letting the operating handle(B) of the Rottmer release to push against the bracket(A) suspended from under the stowage platform. This could result from the horizontal rotation of the capsule as it comes up into the stowed position. This unintended interference is a potential hazard because of the chance that the operating handle(B) could be moved from its locked position, thus permitting the capsule to drop free of the wire rope fall.

North & Judd Snaphooks on Certain Life Preservers

1. PROBLEM. North & Judd #429 Snap Hooks, used as the primary closure on the body strap of some life preservers (Type I PFDs), have been found to have cracks emanating from the rivet holes and/or the stamped anchor trademark.
2. DISCUSSION. Cold working of the casting in the process of riveting the snaphook together and stamping the North & Judd anchor-shaped trademark on the hook, has resulted in cracks starting in these two places. In some cases the hooks have broken off entirely. The following manufacturers are believed to have used the North & Judd #429 Snaphook prior to its withdrawal in 1981:

Cal-June Corporation
Stearns Manufacturing Co.
Soniform Inc.
Delta Marine Designs
3. ACTION: Coast Guard inspectors and vessel operators should carefully examine the snaphooks on the life preservers made by any of the above manufacturers in 1981 or earlier. Cracked or otherwise defective snaphooks may be replaced with the approval of the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection in accordance with 46 CFR 160.006, if the life preserver is otherwise in serviceable condition.

Inflation Tube Mouthpieces on Survival International Exposure Suits

1. PROBLEM. Some mouthpieces on the auxiliary buoyancy unit inflation tubes on Survival International, Inc. exposure suits have been found to be loose enough to be pulled out of the tube by hand, even though secured with a plastic "ty-wrap." The problem may be present on Model 316-AU exposure suits in lots 6-85 and 7-85.
2. DISCUSSION. This defect can be repaired by supplementing the "ty-wrap" with glue. Since the installation of the "ty-wrap" tightly enough to act as a positive clamping device requires special tools or machines, the "ty-wrap" itself will have to be replaced by some other type of hose clamp if repairs are made by the owner.
3. ACTION: Survival International, Inc. Model 316-AU exposure suits should be inspected for this defect by attempting to pull the mouthpiece of the inflation tube out by hand using moderate effort. If the mouthpiece is loose, contact the manufacturer or dealer for a free tube of glue and a non-corrosive hose clamp to effect repairs.

Survival International, USA, Inc.
7859 South 180 Street
Kent, WA 98032
(206) 251-8880