Offshore Special Regulations

OSR 5.02 - Safety Harness and Tethers

A submission from the Royal Yachting Association

Purpose or Objective

To ensure that all crew members have the ability to clip on with short or long tethers. To enable crew to be clipped on at all times when on deck.

Proposal

Amend OSR 5.02 Safety Harness and Tethers to:

MoMu,0,1,2,3 5.02 Safety Harness and Tethers

MoMu,0,1,2,3 5.02.1 For each crew member a harness that complies with ISO12401 or equivalent and a tether that:

MoMu,0,1,2,3 a) is not more than 2m (6'6") in length

MoMu0,1,2,3 b) includes a mid-point snap hook

MoMu0,1,2,3 bc) complies with ISO 12401 (or EN1095 if manufactured before prior to 2010)

MoMu0,1,2,3 ed) have an overload indicator flag embedded sewn into the stitching

MoMu0,1,2,3 de) was be manufactured after 2000

MoMu0 f) a boat shall carry spare harnesses and tethers as required above; sufficient for at least 10% of the crew members (minimum one unit)

MoMu0,1,2,3 5.02.2 A tether that has been overloaded shall be replaced.

MoMu0,1,2,3 5.02.2 30% of the crew shall have either:

MoMu0 a) a tether not more than 1m (3'3") long, or

MoMu0 b) a mid-point snap hook on a 2m (6'6") tether

MoMu0 c) a boat shall carry spare harnesses and tethers as required in OSR 5.02.1 above sufficient for at least 10% of crew members (minimum one unit)

Current Position

As above

Reason

It is recognised that a short tether reduces the risk of a crew member being swept over the side and towed in the water under the boat; however, the OSR currently only require these to be
available for 30% of the crew. Requiring all crew to have a tether combining a clipping point at not
more than 1m and a second clipping point of not more than 2m will mean it is possible to remain
attached to the boat at all times by swapping between them and have instant access to a short
tether where required. This will also promote the use of short tethers.