On Board Familiarization

As the Master of a fishing vessel, you must make sure that all persons with an assigned function on your vessel receive on board familiarization and safety training before they start to work on board. We have provided you with a checklist that you can use with your crew or when anyone new comes aboard. A log for when you provided it is also included.

Always remember to RECORD & DATE when you provided on board familiarization and safety training! This should be done at lest once a month.



On Board Familiarization and Safety Training

The following is a suggested guide for conducting this training. It can be adapted or modified as necessary to be applicable to a specific fishing vessel.

Chain of Command.
Emergency signals and procedures for fire stations, boat stations and abandon ship explained.
Fire station duties explained – Muster location and person in charge identified.
Boat station duties explained – Muster location and person in charge identified.
Shown two (2) distinct routes from bunk area to fire and boat stations.
Lifejackets /PFDs inspected and in good order – demonstrate proper donning.
Location of immersion suits, work suits etc., if applicable.
Location and capacity life boat, life raft, etc. – launch and boarding procedures explained.
Location of life rings and attached equipment shown – Man-over-board procedures explained.
Location of fire alarms and extinguishing equipment shown and use explained – Fire reporting procedures explained.
Location of first aid kits and eye wash stations shown – accident reporting procedures explained.
Alcohol and smoking policy explained.

Note: Other versions of On-Board Familiarization checklists are available from the Fish Safe NS or the Nova Scotia Fisheries Sector Council.

Signatures of Participant			
Specific On-Board Training that Occurred			
Crew that Participated			
Date			

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Pre-Departure Checklist

DATE:	

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BE PREPARED FOR THE UNEXPECTED - CHECK THIS LIST BEFORE EVERY TRIP

Check weather conditions and forecasts for the area to be fished and expected duration of the fishing trip
Consider the planned route for the voyage and make note of any navigational hazards or vessel restrictions
Inform someone on shore of your planned voyage and expected schedule
Ensure there are immersion suits, life jackets and PFDs for each crew member and that they are well fitted, easily available and ready to be donned
Check all safety equipment on board to ensure it is working properly and ready for use in case of an emergency
Check all spaces below deck for water and possible leaks
Conduct an orientation and familiarization of the vessel for all crew
Conduct and document emergency drills. (TCMSS requires all crew be familiar, knowledgable, understand and demonstrate with proficiency the vessel's documented emergency procedures.
Best practise: Practise and document your vessel's emergency drills at least monthly. Remember, practise makes permanent!
Check to ensure all VHF Radios are operating properly
Check that all navigation equipment (radar, GPS, etc.) are operating properly
Inspect all rigging and machinery for wear and tear
Ensure you and the crew understand the stability limits of your vessel
Ensure all locations of possible down flooding are closed and secure
Make sure the vessel is properly ballasted and heavy gear is stored as low as possible
Make sure you have all needed fishing gear and it is in good working order
Plan the trip with other fishing vessels that will be making the same planned voyage. Two or more vessels travelling or fishing in a group can provide assistance for each other if needed.

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