



Up Top In Operations

May 2003

Monthly Newsletter of the National Operations Department

Volume 5

ISAR 2003 Update

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All ISAR 2003 team members must be chosen and their names submitted to COMO Robert Colby by August 15.

ISAR 2003 will be held in St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador on Friday, 26 September 2003 at the Canadian Coast Guard Base and on Saturday, 27 September 2003 at the Royal Newfoundland Yacht Club (RNYC) in Conception Bay South (see <http://www.ccgagcac.com>)

Of note to District selection committees, the international ISAR Competition Committee recently made a rule that all ISAR team members, including alternates, must sit out for at least 2 years (2 competitions) before competing again. This rule will take effect immediately and include the 2003 competition. Any violation of this rule will disqualify the entire team.



THINK SAFETY!

Personal Protective Equipment

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All crew members on board a surface facility while on Coast Guard orders must wear an approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) with at least a minimum set of survival equipment attached to or in the pockets of the PFD. (reference Operational Policy Manual M16798.3D).

These items are all to improve a crewmember's chance of survival if they end up overboard and are not instantly retrieved. Sea conditions and lack of daylight can make finding a person in the water extremely difficult – everything that increases the odds of detection is important. This

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DISTRIBUTION:

- By direct email: National Board, DIRAUX, DSOs AN/AV/CM/OP
- By DIRAUX to: OTOs
- By DCOs to: District Board
- By DCPs to FCs
- By DSOs to: SOs
- By SOs to FSOs

Auxiliary Boat Crew Manuals Remain the Same



BMC George Wilson, G-OCX-2
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We've received numerous phone calls at Headquarters concerning Boat Forces new manuals, and their availability to our Auxiliary members. Here is the scoop.

VOLUME I & II of U.S. COAST GUARD OPERATIONS AND TRAINING (BOAT) MANUALS, COMDTINST M16114.32 & M16114.33 were published by G-OCS-1 on 17 April 2003.

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Automated Email Reminder for Facility Inspections

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Some great news from the folk at AUXDATA! AUXDATA has started to send email facility inspection reminders about 35 days before a particular facility's previous inspection expires.

The notice will be sent to the member, and a copy will also be sent to the FC. Give the AUXDATA team a little slack in the implementation; they will get rough details ironed out now that the process has started.

The copy I received for one of my facilities is at the right.

This reminder will be a special benefit to radio facility owners, because the three-year interval on inspections makes it easy to forget when renewal inspections are required.



Subject: Attention - Inspection Due.
Date: Monday, May 5, 2003 5:00 PM
From: Oracle Software <oracle@auxdatadev.osc.uscg.mil>
To: <my FC, address removed>, <EKROEKER@SEAQUEUE.COM>

Attention EDWIN KROEKER - Facility Inspection Due Soon.

The following Auxiliary facility is due for inspection before 09-JUN-03.

[AIR/BOAT/RADIO] = BOAT
[Resource Type Description (Cruiser, Mobile Radio etc)] = CRS
[Reg #] = <my documentation number appeared here>
[Facility Name] = SEA QUEUE
[Flotilla #] = 013-10-04
[Last Recorded Inspection Date] = 09-JUN-02

You are currently listed as owner of this facility in AUXDATA. You should have the facility inspected as soon as possible to avoid it being set to 'Non-Operational' which precludes it from receiving Coast Guard Patrol Orders. Contact a Vessel Examiner to schedule the required inspection as soon as possible.

There will be no further notifications sent.

Please do not 'Reply' to this email - all email replies will be discarded unread.

I'm sure the text in the messages will be fine-tuned (the 'vessel examiner' text appears in all messages, for example, including radio facility messages). The important information is the reminder itself and the timing of the mailing.

This useful system can't work unless you keep your email address updated in AUXDATA.

What articles do YOU want to see?

Let the Division Chiefs for the ATON, Communications, Surface, or Aviation branches of the Operations Department know! A directory with email addresses appears on the last page of every Up Top in Operations.



What's In a Name?

Up Top in Operations often may seem to concentrate on surface operations, but remember that OPERATIONAL FACILITY includes aviation and radio as well as surface assets.

Our editorial schedule includes two issues a year from each branch in operations (ATON, Surface, Aviation, Communications).

Boat Crew Manuals
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These new manuals (and the directives affected by their publication) do not affect our Auxiliary Boat Crew Programs (CREW/ COXSWAIN/PWC OPERATOR), nor reference material necessary to qualify for the Auxiliary Boat Crew Program. The Coast Guard publication we utilize as a study guide, BOAT CREW SEAMANSHIP MANUAL, COMDTINST M16114.5 (series) was not affected by the creation or cancellation of pubs noted in the new manuals.

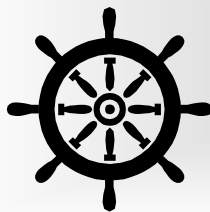
Between the two manuals there are approximately 900 pages, and because the manuals do not affect the Auxiliary Boat Crew Program requirements, there is no expectation for G-OCX to provide the expense of printing and stocking these manuals at ANSC.

Only those Auxiliarists participating in the COAST GUARD BOAT CREW program will be affected. G-OCS are making their manuals available via electronic means for active duty members, however printed copies will be issued only one or two per Coast Guard unit, so an individual may copy the sections necessary for their qualification requirements.

Auxiliary members pursuing Coast Guard boat crew qualification should receive their necessary material via the active duty command which has given approval of that member to participate within their program.



"Up Top in Operations" is the monthly newsletter of the National Operations Department of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.



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Protective Equipment
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is all in the self-interest of the crew member, not arbitrary equipment rules.

The **minimum** set of items required are:

- 1 Whistle
- 2 Reflective tape
- 3 Signal Light : choice of a cyalume chemical light stick, a flashlight, or a strobe light (note that chemical light sticks have an expiration date, and that battery-operated devices have an inherent limited storage lifetime)

- 4 Mirror
- 5 Flares (Coast Guard approved, only required if area of operations requires operating beyond 3 miles from land).

It is the responsibility of the coxswain to insure all crew members are properly equipped before departing. Reviewing crew equipment before departure is a good addition to a pre-underway checklist. It's also good practice to periodically carefully inspect your own survival equipment to insure all expiration dates are not past due, and that equipment is functional and in good condition.

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