

For Immediate Release

ONBOARD LOCKOUT-TAGOUT NEW INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO RELEASE

Onboard Lockout-Tagout, an instructional videotape for commercial vessel operators, is scheduled for release on October 15, 2000. The 15-minute training program depicts real-world lockout-tagout procedures aboard vessels ranging from harbor tugs to super tankers.

Lockout-tagout refers to the set of procedures that is essential for protecting personnel, vessels and the environment from damage caused by the inadvertent operation of onboard systems. Lockout ensures that mechanical, electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic and pressure systems cannot be accidentally energized when personnel are in harm's way or equipment is at risk. Tagout alerts other crewmembers as to the status of a machine or system, about why it has been taken out of service, and the identity of the individual who has applied the lockout.

Produced by John Sabella & Associates, Inc., of Seattle, the program is sponsored by a team of vessel operators: Alaska Tanker Company, Chevron Shipping, Crowley Marine Services and Foss Maritime Company.

"These companies wanted a training resource that reflects onboard practice rather than the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) regulations that apply to shoreside plants," according to producer John Sabella. "We scripted it in conjunction with the operations departments of the four companies, and photographed working engineers practicing lockout-tagout aboard their vessels.

"The fact is, there isn't a one-to-one correlation between the shoreside and at-sea workplaces, and up until now, there hasn't been a program on lockout-tagout that treats the subject matter from a marine perspective. Now, vessel personnel have an educational resource that demonstrates good shipboard practice in a maritime context.

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