ALL LEARNING EVENTS REPORTED TODAY

Mustang Inflatable Lifejacket Maintenance

Inflatable lifejackets require maintenance and shore locations have a different requirement than vessels.

Mustang Inflatable lifejacket (MD 3157)

Do you have an inflatable lifejacket in your office or at your worksite? Is it ready for use? Has it been maintained and inspected?

During a recent Certificate of Recognition (COR) audit it was observed that a *Mustang* Inflatable lifejacket (MD 3157) was last inspected in July 2013 – over 4 years ago (image left).

Mustang states that "an inflation test should be completed **every two months**" (page 15 of the *Mustang* owner's manual). The test includes an inspection of the condition of the lifejacket and the manual inflation of the lifejacket (and leaving it inflated for 16 hours) to ensure that it will hold air and firmness. Once it has passed inspection, it is to be **documented** on the log sheet (affixed to inside of the lifejacket). The lifejacket is then repacked and is ready for use.

Lessons Learned:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be maintained to ensure it will function when required;
- Users of PPE must know *when* and *how* to inspect their assigned equipment;
- Reminders should be set up at the worksite to ensure equipment is maintained at an operational level; and
- Mustang has provided BCFS with a document that "approves" inflatable lifejackets **on vessels** "to undergo" an annual service. It is important to note that this **does not include our shore-side operations** which require it every 2 months (as described above).

Preventive Actions:

- All users of inflatable lifejackets must read the manufacturers owner's manual or be made aware of inspection requirements for their assigned equipment;
- Users must set and follow PPE service and inspection dates *and* document the process; and
- If lifejackets are being used in low-light conditions then an approved (saltwater/auto-activated) light should be installed (Maximo#025696)

If you see something, say something, do something!