

# Safety Alert

**Number:** 22-09

**Published:** 05/05/2022

**Subject:** CO2 Firefighting Systems

## What Happened / Narrative

This Safety Alert / Lesson Learned has been raised to highlight an observation involving the CO2 firefighting system onboard a member's vessel.

The vessel concerned found that during routine monthly inspection of the fixed CO2 system, significant corrosion was noted, this resulted in it not being possible to insert the safety pin to isolate the cylinder during any maintenance. See Photo A below, which shows the safety lever and pin, unable to be positioned correctly in line with the pinhole. In Photo B after corrective maintenance and repair, it can clearly be seen that the activator arm, and therefore the safety pin aligns with the hole and can now be set to isolation for maintenance if required.

## Why Did it Happen / Cause

It cannot be stressed enough, that this critical firefighting system must be maintained and checked correctly and in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. This is to ensure that it is fit for purpose, and always ready to be activated or isolated correctly for vital maintenance.

The routine, regular maintenance of any safety critical system should be afforded the best attention, care and time as these may, if looked after correctly, save your life. Please show them the proper attention they deserve.

## Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

Fire Fighting systems, as with all safety critical systems & equipment must be maintained correctly.

Vessels should ensure that all maintenance schedules for Safety Critical systems & equipment are detailed sufficiently to enable full operational readiness and that they are aligned with manufacturers recommendations.

## Photographs / Supporting Information

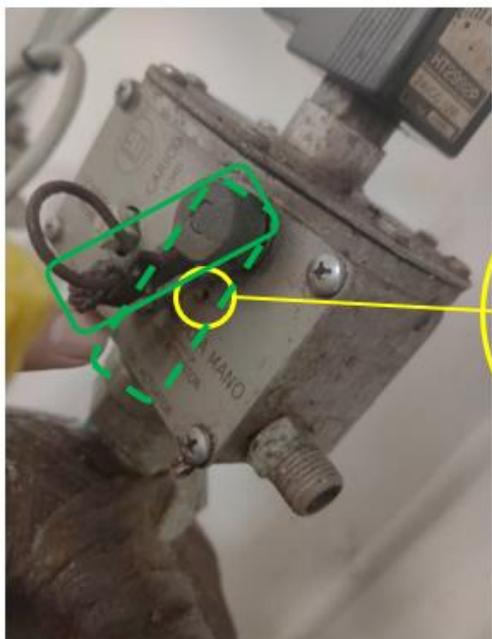


Photo A



Photo B

*The information contained within this Safety Alert and the associated MSF web site is provided in good faith for the benefit of our members and does not constitute and is not intended to constitute professional advice or any form of formal representation on behalf of any MSF member or officer. The text as provided by submitting organisations may be amended to ensure that it is brief, informative and readable but will as far as reasonably practicable remain as per the intent of the original submission. For the avoidance of doubt, no liability whatsoever shall be attached to any guidance, recommendation or statement contained therein. Contents should be reviewed individually by recipients who will determine relevance to their own operations.*