

Industry safety campaigns continue to highlight the need for fishermen to take responsibility for their own safety. While awareness seems to have improved there is still a need for many Owners and Skippers of fishing vessels to put a safety plan in place and conduct regular safety drills. There is also a responsibility to insist on crewmen wearing PFD's when working on exposed decks as tragic drownings are still a regular occurrence. The Skipper continues to spearhead a campaign to encourage the use of PFD's by fishermen and in 2017 will again promote safety as the main theme at the three Skipper Expo's. Once again we hope that this year the numbers of fatalities and injuries at sea will continue to fall as safety becomes the norm for the Irish & UK fishing.

BIM

BIM expand Safety Training facilities

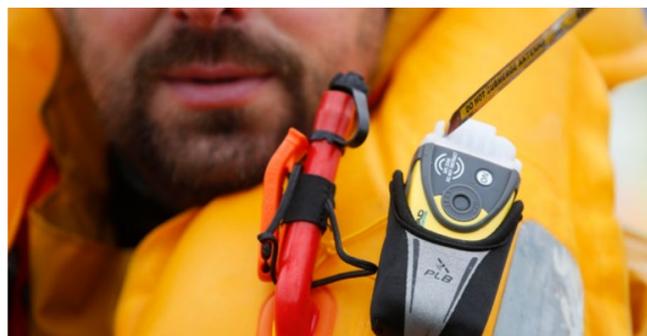
Building Skills and establishing a talent pipeline across Ireland's Seafood Industry are key priorities for BIM's training team this year. BIM already delivers an extensive schedule of courses to seafood industry personnel through the BIM National Fisheries Colleges in Castletownbere and Greencastle and on board two mobile coastal training units that visit every port in Ireland. BIM's training provision will be further improved over the next two years with the construction of a fire-fighting training unit located on Dinish Island. The new facility worth over €200,000 will be a valuable training asset to the College in Castletownbere.

This custom made unit presents students with pitch dark, smoke filled rooms with fires set in difficult to get to recesses. Life like casualties can be placed

in the unit forcing students to confront the problem of recovering a grown man from an enclosed space.

BIM's new €1.5 million Sea Survival Training Centre in Greencastle will be complete in 2018. This exciting new development will include a state of the art 15 metre simulator pool with an elevated platform equipped with a wave machine, water spray unit and fans to reproduce extreme weather conditions, two changing areas, a self-contained heating unit capable of maintaining water temperature of 23 -28 degrees Celsius, a water treatment unit and a classroom for 16 students.

The new facility will significantly complement the extensive training infrastructure already in place in the college including a Fire Fighting Unit, a fully integrated



fishing vessel simulator, vessel dry land trawler deck, engine room and workshop and seven classrooms.

The upcoming Skipper Expo in Galway sponsored by BIM is the perfect opportunity to promote safety at sea and BIM are calling on fishermen to bring their PFD's with them to the show so they can be checked by experienced BIM trainers. BIM's Enhanced Safety

Scheme has been an integral and successful part of BIM's safety at sea programme with over 1,600 fishermen trained to date with grant-aid sanctioned for 1,546 PFD's with integrated PLB's. Please visit www.bim.ie or check out the Skipper for BIM's monthly training schedule.



RNLI

RNLI Team continue to promote Safety at Sea

During 2016 RNLI Fishing Safety Team has been Visiting Ports throughout UK & Ireland.

Our main focus has been on PFD'S and Man Overboard recovery. Early 2016 saw several fatalities and more came throughout the year.

The team delivered events and training to the industry with support from our partners. One such event took place in Donegal at Glengad, and a second event took place the next evening in Bun Beg.

Both these events were well attended by fishermen and much was discussed by the group. These events had been put together by

Charlie Cavanagh and Timmy Boyle, Irish Coast Guard as a joint venture.

We intend to follow this up this year with some more events; subjects will be Man Overboard Recovery, Stability, and Deck Machinery.

In January 2017, 15 fishermen from all over UK & Ireland took part in a MOB Recovery and cold water event at the RNLI Survival Centre in Poole Dorset.

The aim of the event is to give fishermen the chance to experience the effects of cold water and to try different ways to extract MOB quickly and safely from the water. MAIB reports show that most casualties lose the ability to recover themselves



Weymouth Fishermen practice MOB drill with RNLI Safety Team.

or to be recovered by crew mates within maximum 15mins, most cases around 8 mins. This event is being filmed for use in training and social media, so keep an eye out for it.

We would like to thank all the

fishermen who have attended these events and hope they have benefitted from them, and look forward to meeting you all again this year.

We will be attending all 3 Skipper expo's this year starting with Galway.

ATLANTIC MARINE

Leading the way in inshore safety



Atlantic Marine have been at the forefront of marine safety in Ireland for the past 30 years and are continuing to expand their inshore hire liferaft fleet, this liferaft, specifically designed for the inshore sector and meets the requirements for vessels which come under the Code of Practice regulations. The liferaft is manufactured by RFD in Belfast, the world leader in marine safety.

Many inshore vessels have already put the new and compact liferaft onboard, with this brand new

fleet of liferafts being rolled out continuously.

MAIN ADVANTAGES:

- Cost effective
- 3 year servicing
- Most competitive hire/ purchase rates on the market
- Fully accepted under Code of Practice regulations for vessels under 12m and comes complete with Solas B pack
- Full inshore safety package available

Atlantic Marine is Ireland's leading liferaft service station

and its core business is the hire, supply, service and recertification of a diverse range of lifesaving equipment. They are a government approved, liferaft service station for the impressive Survitec Group brand portfolio, which includes: RFD, Dunlop-Beaufort, DSB and Lifeguard, as well as Survitec Zodiac liferafts and rescue boats.

On their premises in Killybegs, Atlantic Marine has a large 8000sq.ft. purpose built service station where they service liferafts from 4 persons to 100 persons

catering for passenger ferries, tourism vessels, fishing vessels, offshore vessels and leisure vessels.

Atlantic Marine provides replacement liferafts during service, as well as a 24 hour, 7 days per week service to the marine industry. The company also has a large fleet of SOLAS approved hire liferafts ranging from 4 persons to 50 persons. We also supply and service a large range of inflatable lifejackets and immersion suits which are required by the marine industry.

The company specialises in the supply of all lifesaving equipment, including Distress Rockets, Flares, Smoke Signals, Man Overboards, Lifebuoys, Life throwing appliances, Lifejackets and Hydrostatic Release Units.

For more information: Tel: 074 9731440, Fax: 074 9731699 or email info@atlanticmarine.ie www.atlanticmarine.ie

MULLION

A Life jacket, when worn is as vital a Safety measure as the Seat Belt in your car

Personal Flotation Device – PFD – Life Jacket

“It's too late to be trying to put on your seat belt as your head crashes through the car windscreen” comments Adrian Towey, Sales Manager Mullion Survival Technology. “No clearer message have I heard over recent years as I attend the educational safety programmes presented by Mr. Frankie Horne the RNLI Fishing Safety Manager in demonstrating and delivering Safety Programmes.”

The Commercial Fishing Industry has improved their safety record as more and more fishermen accept the need for on deck wearing of PFD's .

At Mullion Survival Technology we see a steady rise in the demand for lifejackets and we continue to play a major role in improving the style and ergonomic design to provide even more wearer comfort and performance. The support schemes in place for training and safety awareness

ensures a continuing uptake by fishermen in learning how to stay safe on the job and having their personal PFD

Personal Locator Beacon – PLB & ComReg

Further to the uptake and use of personal floatation devices the added importance of also having a personal locator beacon, as part of the safety equipment, ensures that if in a crisis situation an alert to the Rescue Services is now very much in the hands of the individual fisherman.

Whether purchased through the BIM Enhanced Safety Scheme, or as an individual investment in safety, it is essential to ensure the unit is registered online through ComReg.

ComReg is the statutory body responsible for the regulation of the electronic communications sector (telecommunications, radio communications and broadcasting transmission). By registering personal and individual details

of contact details, the Rescue Services can react instantly with the full knowledge of the information immediately available.

PFD Servicing

It is a very important requirement under the Enhanced Safety Scheme Legislation that the PFD/PLB unit be serviced by an authorized Service Centre every year.

On the Mullion 150N CE Compact, issued through the BIM Enhanced Safety Scheme, there is a service Record Card on the reverse side of the cover indicating the month and year when service is due. On the first service a pre alert text message will be transmitted to the personal contact of the registered owner.

The mechanism is also visible through the cover showing two green indicators as fit for purpose. If either one is showing red it is not fit for purpose and must be checked before use as either the



gas canister or mechanism are loose or already used. A new range of Mullion ETSO approved helicopter transfer PFD's and Mullion Smart Dry Suits will be available in this year.

For more information contact: Adrian.towey@sioen.ie Tel: +353 749531169.

A Lifejacket Useless Unless Worn

SWAN NET GUNDRY

The recent report that some 53 Irish fishermen have been lost at sea in the last ten years has further heightened awareness in the fishing industry for the safety of those at sea in dangerous conditions.

Given this focus, Swan Net Gundry (SNG) continues its strategy of providing fishermen and vessel owners with the latest technology in Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs), safety clothing, life rafts and EPIRB's & PLB's. A long-established leader in design and supply of trawls for the international fishing industry SNG took the decision, in 2004, to not only cater for the catching sector but also to invest in R&D into safety aspects and, as a result, established a Dept. of Marine approved life raft service station at their Castletownbere depot, while also achieving SOLAS approval for sale & service of single and double chamber SOLAS lifejackets.

With life rafts available for sale or hire in all sizes from four-man to 50-man SNG are currently one of Ireland's leading life raft rental outlet.

Aiding inshore fishermen to comply with safety Code of Practice (COP) regulations, SNG supplies an extensive safety range from fire extinguishers and flares to first aid kits and electronics such as ACR Category 1 type PLBs (simple two-step activation) which conforms to COP requirements for 15m vessels, without the need of being integrated into a lifejacket. And regarding flares, SNG's pyrotechnics have a 4-year life compared to the 3-year life of many other brands on the market. Testament to SNG's reputation is that they are an official distributor & service centre for BIM lifejackets with integrated PLB, as well as a registered centre for Mullion lifejackets.

Swan Net Gundry's safety experts

Caring for our fishermen

provide an assistance service to customers for radio licences, EPIRB and PLB registrations as well as beacon service and reprogramming. This service is recognised through the company being chosen as authorised battery replacement agents for ACR and McMurdo safety electronics products.

As well as a vital tool for inshore fishermen, the ACR PLB have become popular with many hill and coastal walkers and hikers, rural recreational officers, and in many other sectors.

The extensive service range of SNG safety equipment and services also includes the provision of quotations for fishermen applying for BIM safety grant aid.

Swan Net Gundry is also the sole Irish distributor of Stormline clothing, which includes the 'floatation bib' - designed as a



50N buoyancy aid – an innovative design which is based on Stormline's top selling 654 Crew Bib, which incorporates foam in the knees, chest and back, with sides left open to allow air to pass through and also for freedom of movement whilst working.

For more information, see www.swannetgundry.com or phone 074 97 31180 (Killybegs) – 027 70502 (Castletownbere). We look forward to seeing you at the Skipper Expo Int. Galway 2017 on Stand 09.

GR LIFERAFTS LTD.

GR Liferafts Ltd. Ireland's leading supplier of marine safety equipment are the sales and service agents for Viking lifesaving equipment and Narwhal inflatable craft in Ireland. Both Viking and Narwhal are among the top names in marine lifesaving equipment.

Viking lifesaving equipment manufacture top of the line liferafts, lifejackets, suits etc. providing essential safety equipment for passenger and commercial vessels, offshore installations and vessels, the defence sector as well as leisure crafts. Narwhal professional boats manufacture top of the line inflatable rescue boats which are required on commercial vessels and leisure craft which can also be supplied by GR Liferafts at very competitive prices.

Approached by Viking Lifesaving Equipment 15 years ago to facilitate the sales and servicing of Viking products throughout Ireland our fully trained service

technicians collectively have almost 50 years of experience servicing liferafts and have handled Viking products over 15 years now which is an important consideration for customers requiring servicing of Viking equipment.

Customers include various government departments, ferry operators, fishing companies as well as yachts and leisure boats. Services are carried out to the highest standards with inspections from the Department of Transport and Viking on a regular basis.

Products supplied and serviced include liferafts, lifejackets, rescue boats, survival suits, pyrotechnics and all accessories required for installation of safety equipment on board vessels.

The company has a large, modern, purpose built servicing facility to cater for the servicing of all liferaft types varying in sizes up to 100 persons. GR Liferafts can turnaround vessels within 24 hours throughout the ports of Ireland and have demonstrated

Marine lifesaving specialists

this quite regularly over the past few months. They have a large fleet of hire liferafts available ranging from 4 to 65 persons.

Call us on: 074 97 41760 or email: grliferafts@eircom.net.



CH MARINE

Complete Sea Safety Solutions at CH Marine & KTS Sea Safety – Sales, Service, Hire & Asset Management.

CH Marine, in conjunction with its Northern Ireland branch, KTS Sea Safety, offers an all-Ireland solution to Safety. The company focuses on leading brand name suppliers and offers a wide range of Life raft options including Viking, Youlong, Lalizas and Seago in CH Marine's stable, while KTS Sea Safety covers the well-known Survitec range of RFD and DSB. Both Companies also handle an extensive range of non- SOLAS brands. The company offers Service and Hire from 4 Locations in Ireland. These include their two SOLAS Approved Service centres in Skibbereen and Newry and further Lifejacket, Immersion Dry Suit and EPIRB services at the Cork and Newtownards, Belfast branches.

SAMS eases the paperwork and manages your equipment status in the cloud.

Key to all CH Marine operations is its sophisticated and intuitive Asset Management System, SAMS.

SAMS is a cloud based program which CH Marine uses to manage, record and issue notifications of all its servicing operations. Clients have access to their own online Dashboard where they can view and manage all their Safety Equipment in one area. All certification is stored on-line and the client's Dashboard clearly displays an overview of the service status of all the on-board Safety equipment.

For a preview of SAMS, take a look at this website- www.safetyatsea.ie where you can login with the Username: demo and Password: demo.

EPIRBs, PLBs, and AIS Beacons

McMurdo is the CH Marine Group's sole supplier of EPIRB's, PLB's and all related GMDSS Equipment. McMurdo is a world leader in beacon technology and its Smartfind and Fastfind ranges are familiar to most fishing boats. McMurdo PLB's are an established asset with many fishermen, particularly those who fish alone although there is increasing popularity of AIS Lifejacket Beacons in the McMurdo range.

So what is the difference between a Personal Location Beacon (PLB) and an AIS Beacon? John Kelleher, CH Marine's Safety Product Manager, outlined the difference for us. "PLB's dominate, as they are Satellite technology and once activated, your Mayday is automatically transmitted to the rescue authorities giving GPS positional data and your own ID Information. AIS Beacons cut in when the most likely source of rescue is your own vessel or a boat in the immediate vicinity with an AIS Receiver.

Complete Sea Safety Solutions



Service Station CH Marine Skibbereen.

To give a somewhat extreme example, if a MOB situation occurs 100k off the coast, the PLB would work perfectly but it would be communicating with the Shore based agencies and rescue could be several hours away. The AIS Beacon communicates directly with your vessel, immediately alerting a MOB situation allowing the vessel to track back precisely and effect a rescue in a much shorter period of time. This would be considered essential in cold water situations. AIS uses VHF transmissions and so the effective range of AIS is controlled largely by line of sight."

Shore Based Maintenance facility (SBM)

GMDSS Technology is now a crucial and integral part of marine safety in Ireland and a fast and efficient support network essential. To this end, CH Marine have very much answered the question with their fully approved SBM (Shore Based Maintenance) facility in Skibbereen. Here testing, service and programming is all carried out in a carefully monitored environment.

Finally wrapping up on a very extensive range at CH Marine is the Pyrotechnic department. CH Marine distribute for Drew Marine, owners of world leading brands, Pains Wessex and Comet. The range includes Distress Flares, MOB light and Smoke/ Line Throwers and specialist items such Illumination Flares etc.

First Aid Kits for fishing vessels- New Regulatory Controls

First Aid kits for fishing vessels have now become a regulatory item and fall under the jurisdiction of HPR, the Health Products Regulatory Authority. CH Marine has moved quickly to satisfy these new requirements and currently hold HPR certification for WDP and GDP. These First Aid kits, which often contain prescribed medication, are now handled in a meticulously controlled environment and are carefully managed and recorded to conform to

this latest regulation.

Pyrotechnics

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