Watertight Door Awareness Stats and Facts

FACTS

Accidents Associated with Watertight Doors:

1. If individuals are not aware of the presence or operation of a closing watertight door, they can get caught between the door and its frame when it closes.
2. Inadequate awareness of the proper sealing procedures for watertight doors can result in doors not being fully closed or secured.
3. Mechanical or electrical failures in watertight door systems can result in accidents. Doors may fail to close or open, or they may become stuck in an intermediate position.
4. Insufficient understanding or awareness of emergency procedures related to watertight doors can result in the doors not being properly closed or sealed, allowing water to enter compartments and cause significant damage or hazards.
5. Lack of awareness regarding the importance of regular maintenance and inspections for watertight doors can lead to equipment failures increasing the risk of accidents or failures during emergencies.
6. Misinterpretation or incorrect reading of status indicators or lights associated with watertight doors can lead being mistakenly left open or closed, increasing the risk of water ingress.

STATS

- It was calculated that workers passed through the watertight doors at least 500 times per day.
- Analysis showed that 25% of recorded ‘days away from work’ accidents during the year were attributable to the use of marine doors.

- An analysis of the root causes revealed that they could be attributed to behavioral attitudes towards the use and dangers of marine doors, which accounted for 90% of the causes of injury.
- Crush incident involving power operated watertight door on ro-ro cargo vessel Ark Forwarder with loss of 1 life.
- 1.5% of accidents have occurred when crew members were using the controls provided at the doors to pass through watertight doors.
- Ship Safety Bulletin 4/81 referred to recent fatal accidents of the 36% which involved the operation of a power operated watertight door on board.