

MODEL - EMERGENCY PROCEDURES MANUAL - TOWING ACTIVITY

The “person in charge” means the person designated by the owner or operator of the towing activity who has the responsibility of conducting the operation.

The licensee shall define clearly who will be the “emergency contact person” **onshore** to be contacted in case of an incident during the towing activity.

Actions to be initiated by personnel in case of an emergency.

1) Person in charge:

The person in charge of the towing activity shall:

- Assess the situation;
- Establish the nature and extent of the emergency as quickly as possible;
- Stay calm;
- Take charge and reassure everyone onboard;
- Ensure that everyone is safe from further danger;
- May assess who can help;
- First aid may be administered as required by a person holding a First Aid Certificate;
- Call the “emergency contact person” onshore and the NCG and provide the following information:
 - Nature of emergency: Mechanical failure of craft or engine, injury to participant(s), etc.
 - Approximate location of craft
 - Type of assistance required: Ambulance, doctor, transportation, etc.
 - Describe the action taken
 - Specify the number of injured participant(s) (if any)
 - Describe type and extent of injury (if any)
- May request help from other pleasure crafts found nearby;
- Fill in the Incident Report Form as soon as possible;
- Continue to monitor the situation;

- As far as practical, await the arrival of NCG before arranging the return of other participant(s).
- 2) "Emergency Contact Person": After receiving the distress message, the "emergency contact person" shall initiate the following actions:
- Repeat the information received from the person in charge to confirm that he has understood the emergency situation.

a) *In case of Craft/Engine failure:*

Organize to send another craft with appropriate towing equipment.

- Inform the person in charge of the activity of action taken by him.

b) *In case of Accident/Injuries:*

- Confirm whether request for transport to hospital is required.
- Contact the SAMU on Tel. No. 114 specifying nature of emergency, requirement of ambulance, stretcher, oxygen (in case of serious nature) or the nearest hospital/clinic.
- Inform the nearest NCG/or Police Post.
- When contacting the medical/NCG, the following information shall be provided:
 - The exact location of the incident.
 - Be clear that it is an emergency.
 - What has happened.
 - What has been done so far.
- Keep contact with the person in charge and inform him of action being taken.
- A staff member shall accompany the injured participant(s) to the hospital.

Extract from "Code de la mer" – Chapter 4: Urgencies and Emergencies

When at sea there may be a circumstance that you will need to face an emergency/urgency situation like for example (i) fire on board (ii) man overboard (iii) strand on the reefs. What are the procedures to tackle such a situation?

▪ **Man overboard**

1. If somebody falls overboard, raise the alarm verbally or by any other means like blowing a whistle as to make everybody conscious of the situation and indicate the side the casualty went overboard
2. Throw a lifebuoy at sea
3. Stop the engines
4. Look out posted and ask the persons on board not to lose sight of the person in the sea and make sure everybody is calm on board.
5. Proceed against current or on the leeward side as there is a risk to injure the person in the water.
6. If you have the current aft during your manoeuvre to pick up the person, do not proceed too fast or too near the person in the water. Do not lose control of your craft.
7. In case the person is unconscious, the manoeuvre to approach the person will be very significant.

▪ **Fire on board**

1. May be caused by diesel oil, BBQ, cigarette light, short-circuit.
2. Glass reinforced plastic or fibreglass made crafts are very combustible and will alight a fire very easily.
3. As soon as there is a start of a fire, try to put out the fire by using a portable appropriate fire extinguisher immediately.
4. Never use a water base fire extinguisher on electrical fire -risk of electrocution.
5. The fumes emitted by a fire may be toxic.
6. Try to put out the fire using sea water also if possible.
7. Manoeuvre your craft to place the point of fire on the leeward side.

- **Collision**
 1. It is important to check that there is neither casualty nor injured persons on both your craft and on the other one. This must be your primary preoccupation.
 2. Security of persons on board is of prime importance.
- **Aground/strand**
 1. A craft will go aground because it was navigating in shallow waters where there was no under keel clearance to keep her floating.
 2. It is advisable to lighten the craft and/or wait for the next high water to refloat the craft.
- **Evacuation by helicopter**
 1. In case of evacuation by helicopter, try to proceed to about 8 knots on a steady course while keeping the wind to about 30 degrees on the starboard bow (right side).
 2. In case the helicopter is lowering you a winch wire, never touch it until the static electricity build up has been discharged into the sea water by contact or else you risk to be electrocuted.
 3. When being landed from the helicopter, personnel must obey the instructions given by the helicopter crew since there is a danger of inadvertently walking into the trail rotor - found on the tail of the helicopter - which, due to its high speed of rotation, is difficult to see and can injure/kill someone.

Note: There are also other undesirable circumstances from where you will need to improvise to come out successfully in those situations as many variable factors will affect your decisions.

Useful telephone numbers :(It is up to the licensee to keep and update list)

Police Department

- Police Exchange
Emergency Call →999
→112

- Emergency Response Service (ERS)
Hotline → 686 5500
Port Louis → 208 1212
Southern → 617 8065
Northern → 264 9744
Eastern → 413 1565
Western → 465 7025

National Coast Guard

Headquarters → 208 8317 → 212 2747	Bel Ombre → 622 6763 → 622 7221
Blue Bay → 631 9347 → 631 0967	Trou aux Biches → 265 6001 → 265 6201
Grand Bay → 263 6332 → 269 1962	Grand Gaube → 288 8582 → 288 9904
Black River → 483 6922	Flic en Flac → 453 9199
Mahebourg → 631 9236	Souillac → 625 5021/2
Poudre D'Or → 283 7298	Trou D'Eau Douce → 480 2703
GRSE-Deux Freres → 417 6270	Bois des Amourettes → 622 7221

Diving Unit → 471 0624

SAMU → 114