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Life and Work aboard Larger Fishing Vessels

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Principal Marine Surveyor



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QUESTIONS

Please ask any questions at the end



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Background

6000+ UK registered Fishing Vessels (FVs)

12,000 UK fishermen

Billion pound industry:

- landings by UK vessels
 - 730,000 tonnes of fish
 - worth £3073 million in 2016
- exported 440,000 tonnes worth £1640 million



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Background

One of the most dangerous occupations to be involved in!





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Under 15m FVs



UK wide - 5160

Growth sector

**Inspected every 5 years by FV Surveyors
using a Code of Practice;**

Low key - essentially a simple check list



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15m - 24m FVs



UK Wide 420

Survey every 5 years with
intermediate inspection at mid point.

Full survey includes Hull and
machinery survey, stability test and
outfit check, using a Code of Safe
Working Practice



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Over 24m FVs



UK Wide 250, with 80+ overseas

Large Anglo Spanish, Anglo Dutch and Falkland Islands interests

Some very modern, very efficient vessels

Comprehensive survey every 4yrs, intermediate survey at mid point, and annual radio survey.

Regulated by new UK regulations introduced Oct 17 which include incorporation of the International Torremolinos Convention

So – what do they look like?



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Types of larger Fishing Vessels

They sometimes look like this



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Beam Trawler



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Scalloper



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Stern Trawler



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Long Liner



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Netter



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...or sometimes like this!



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Working Conditions

- Challenging marine environment
- Labour intensive
- Dangerous equipment and machinery
- Long periods at sea
- Fatigue
- Complex employment relationships



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Issues

- Large numbers of foreign workers employed on UK flag fishing vessels – Filipino, Eastern European, African, Indonesian and others
- Fatal and Life Changing Accidents
- Exploitation of some foreign workers by unscrupulous owners
 - Low pay
 - Poor conditions
 - Lack of basic care both at sea and in port
 - Misleading foreign workers into joining vessels which are not what they expected
 - Untrained workers in fishing methods and procedures
- Long, unsociable working hours, leading to fatigue



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Actions taken to improve conditions

- Worked closely with many partners in the Fishing Industry Safety Group (FISG) to develop better conditions for fishermen, including working with:-
 - The Fishermen’s Mission to look after and provide for foreign workers in port
 - The Border Agency, Police etc. to follow up complaints from fishermen which is likely to lead to prosecution of employers
 - An Action plan to inspect and rectify vessels employing foreign workers who cannot return home between fishing trips and may live on the vessel or in accommodation in the vessel’s home port
- Other Partners in FISG include Fishing Federations, Government Bodies such as Seafish, The Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB), The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI), Fisheries Management organisations in all parts of the UK, and others
- Examples of working together or as individual organisations for the fishermen include provision of showers and recreational facilities (RNMDSF) and the joint project to develop as suitable Personal Floatation Device (PFD) which can be worn at all times on deck by fishermen



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Living Conditions

ILO C188 and existing UK regulations set out the standard expected for crew accommodation, such as:-

- Cabins – size, furniture, beds etc.
- Galley and Messroom facilities
- Food and drink



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Living Conditions

- General provisions
- Planning and control
- Design and construction
- Headroom
- Insulation

- Noise and vibration
- Ventilation
- Heating and air conditioning
- Lighting





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Living Conditions



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Living Conditions

Maintenance and hygiene





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Living Conditions

Maintenance and hygiene





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Living Conditions



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Living Conditions



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Poor Living and Working Conditions

ACCIDENT REPORT

Report on the investigation of
the loss of a crewman from the fishing vessel

St Amant (BA 101)

off the coast of north-west Wales

on 13 January 2012

MAIB
MARINE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION BRANCH



VERY SERIOUS MARINE CASUALTY

REPORT NO 1/2013

January 2013

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Living and Working Conditions – How not to do it





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Living and Working Conditions – How not to do it



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Living and Working Conditions – How not to do it





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Living and Working Conditions – How not to do it

When the weather was poor the toilet bucket was used in the fish hold, where the catch and provisions were stowed!





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Medical Care on board

Should look something like this, but often there is no provision of an hospital





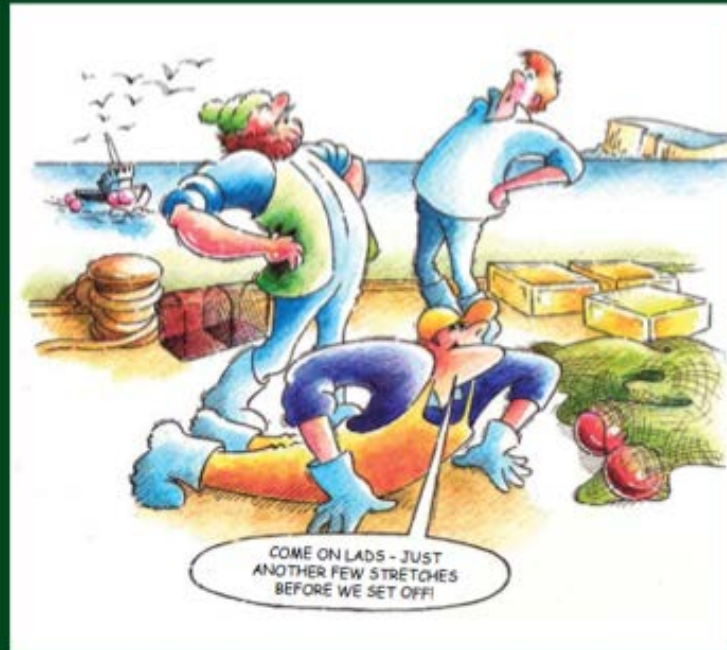
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Health and Safety

FISHERMAN

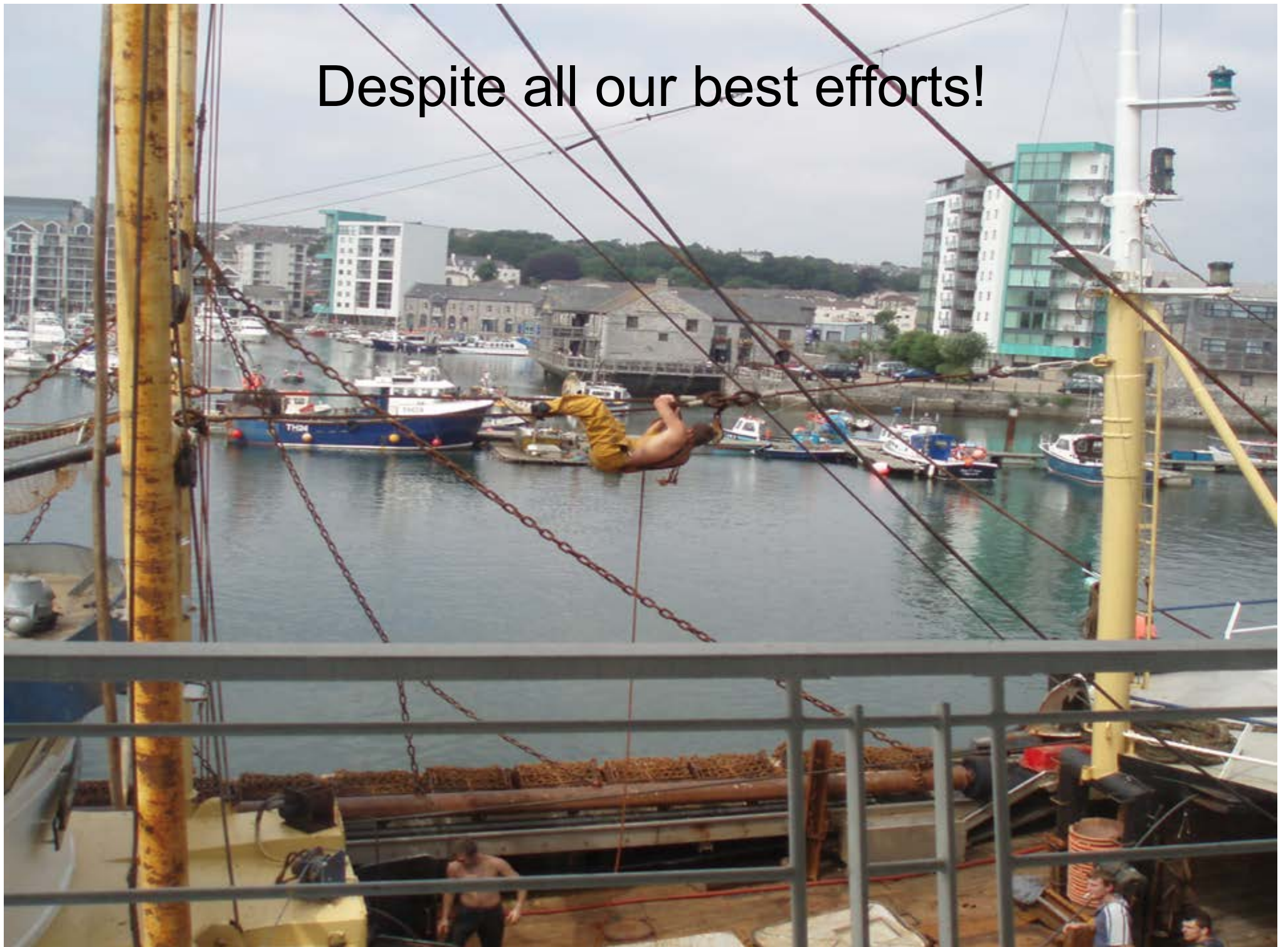


**A Health Workshop Manual
for working fishermen**



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Despite all our best efforts!







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Any Questions?

