

Entrance hatches

CREW ACCIDENT

A crewman entered a cargo hold entrance trunk and was holding on to the hatch. When the weight on the hatch was relieved the hatch snapped back and kicked the securing device off the holder - the hatch fell, beat the helmet off and hit the head hardly.

FACTS

Entrance hatches are hazardous - contributing factors to accidents can be:

Technical

- lack of maintenance !
- broken or corroded parts
- paint condition (thickness, securing device)
- securing device removed / bent

Organizational

- spring unhooked for maintenance
- oily (grease) or wet (dew) surfaces
- poor illumination
- missing / poor familiarization

Personal

- securing hook accidentally moved
- change of body load when reaching to another handle with sudden release of the load and bouncing back of the hatch



Pulling with fully body weight



Left hand grasps first step of the ladder



Sudden load transfer to left hand, hatch bounced back



Hook slipped off, hatch fell and hit the head hardly

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CREW:

It is your health and your safety - therefore

prior entering

- check the hatch, spring, joints and bolts
- check the securing device and its proper holding
- use PPE helmet

and

- do not push the hatch & avoid sudden release of the pull load followed by bouncing back of the hatch

**THINK AND ACT
SAFE!**

OWNER:

It is your responsibility - therefore

ensure appropriate

- risk assessment, operating instruction and familiarization procedures

- PMS and safe technical conditions

and

- establish measures to promote awareness on board