

Fire on board a open cruiser

1 Summary

- 1.1 A fire broke out onboard a locally licensed open cruiser off the Trio Island, Sai Kung. The fire started at a storage box which was fixed near the coxswain's seat of the open cruiser, and the fire was spread out quickly. The coxswain of the speedboat was missing in the accident. His body was found six days later at the southwest of the Steep Island, Sai Kung.
- 1.2 The investigation into the accident revealed that the most probable cause of the fire was the ignition of the vaporized gasoline, which was accumulated and trapped inside the storage box, by a naked flame.

2 Lessons learnt

- 2.1 They are as follows:
 - 2.1.1 Spare gasoline fuel should be stowed in containers of closed type specifically designed by manufacturer for the carriage of gasoline;
 - 2.1.2 Fuel container should be placed at open and well ventilated space; and
 - 2.1.3 Gasoline is highly inflammable, any forms of naked flame such as lighted cigarette and spark generator etc. should be kept away from the gasoline container
 - 2.1.4 The attention of vessels' operators and crew are drawn to the above when using gasoline fuel on board their vessels