

The electrocution of the Coxswain on board the pleasure yacht “*Lohengrin*” at a Shipyard in Tsing Yi on 25 November 2013

1. The Incident

- 1.1 On 25 November 2013, an accident happened on board the Cayman Island registered pleasure yacht “*Lohengrin*” (*yacht*) which was berthing alongside a locally licensed barge of the Tsing Yi North Coast Yacht Services Ltd.
- 1.2 At the time of the accident, the coxswain of the pleasure yacht was trying to repair an electric plug because it was abnormally hot. Unfortunately, he did not turn off and isolate the power supply before opening up the plug for repair. As a result, he was electrocuted and certified dead in a hospital.
- 1.3 The investigation revealed that the main contributory factor of the accident was the safety awareness of the Coxswain was inadequate when handling electrical works without isolation of the electrical power supply.

2. Lessons learnt

- 2.1 The important lessons learnt from the above accident:
 - Coxswain and crew members must observe electrical safety practices at all times;
 - Work shall not be carried out on electrical appliances before the power has been switched off and isolated; and
 - A signboard showing “Work in Progress” should be displayed at prominent position of the electrical panel to prohibit anyone from operating the panel.