



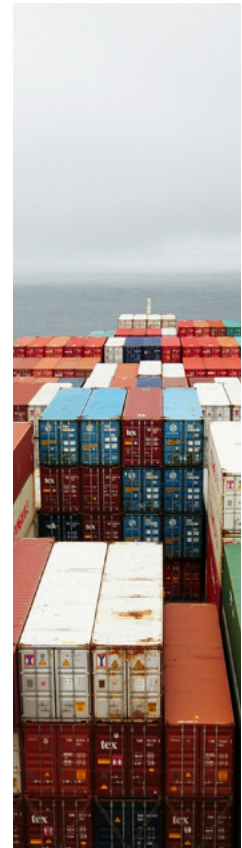
International Institute of Marine Surveying
Dedicated to Excellence in Marine Surveying

News Bulletin

M A Y 2 0 2 0

Dear Member

Welcome to this News Bulletin from the International Institute of Marine Surveying (IIMS). This bulletin is available in PDF and eReader format from the IIMS website. It aims to keep members and non-members up to date with information on a monthly basis. Members are encouraged to share and forward this newsletter to colleagues, who they think might like to join the Institute, or who may be interested in its content. For more information about the Institute visit: www.iims.org.uk.



CEO Chat

Dear Colleague

These are tough times for marine surveyors as well as anyone who is engaged in business or offering a service - more challenging than most of us will ever have experienced in our lives. I do remain confident though that as we emerge from lockdown, the services of marine surveyors will once again be in strong demand.



I'd like to start by thanking those IIMS members who have joined us for the first of our online seminars in the past few weeks. They have been very well attended, beyond expectations. It is heart-warming to see many surveyors taking the 'enforced career break' to learn some new and refresh old skills.

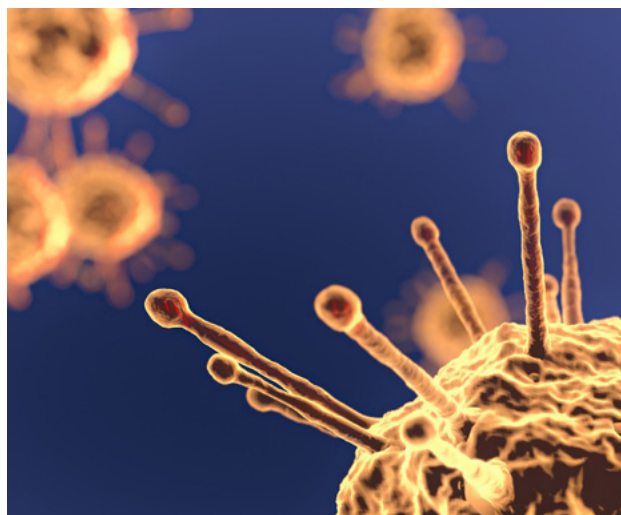


The IIMS team working hard at home and sending their best wishes to all IIMS members

Also, I'd like to extend my thanks to my colleagues at IIMS for their efforts this past month and for their unstinting support. Our combined teamworking has been the only reason we have managed to keep running and to keep offering a full service to our members. The team continues to work from home and meets twice daily online via Zoom to share the day's events. There have even been a couple of quizzes to keep all mentally engaged!

CEO Chat (*continued*)

I recently updated the IIMS COVID-19 Safety Working Guide, which is published in full in this news bulletin. As countries around the world start to unlock their citizens, I remain very concerned at what this means given that the virus is still present in our communities. The 'new normal' we are emerging into will be unlike the 'old normal' we once knew. It requires us to keep social distancing and taking sensible precautions until a vaccine or suitable treatment exists. So, please, take a few moments to read the Safety Working Guide and apply the common sense suggestions.



Reading an email from an experienced marine surveyor of nearly 40 years recently left me feeling utterly shocked when he explained what happened when he tried to apply common sense, health and safety rules with his client before conducting his planned survey. As a result of his attempts to take sensible steps to protect himself from infection, he was stood down from the survey. At his request, I have published his comments anonymously. I will leave you to make up your own mind!

And finally I have a date for your diary. The 2020 IIMS Annual General Meeting will be like no other we have held before and takes place on Tuesday 16th June at 14.30 (UK London time). The online only AGM will be open and free for all to attend, but you will be asked to pre-register your attendance. Those entitled to vote will be notified by email in the coming days about how the electronic process will work.

Keep safe and well.

Mike Schwarz, Chief Executive Officer

Online IIMS seminar video content available for sale

Over the past few weeks, IIMS has begun a series of specialist online seminars for surveyors, which have proved to be highly popular. Each has been delivered by an expert in their field. Topics have varied from an introduction to paint coatings to how to conduct a mast and rig survey and from inspecting critical equipment on CTVs to paint defects - something for most yacht and small craft surveyors to learn and benefit from.

IIMS has brought all these recent seminar videos into one central location. They will not be uploaded and open to anyone for free via the IIMS YouTube channel and are only available for purchase and direct download through the website.

 REPORT WRITING ONLINE SEMINAR BROADCAST 19 FEBRUARY 2020	 HOW TO CONDUCT A COMPLETE MAST & RIGGING SURVEY ONLINE SEMINAR BROADCAST 2 APRIL 2020
 INTRODUCTION TO YACHT COATING FAILURES AND PAINT DEFECTS ONLINE SEMINAR BROADCAST 27 APRIL 2020	 INTRODUCTION TO YACHT COATINGS ONLINE SEMINAR BROADCAST 16 APRIL 2019
 INSPECTING CRITICAL EQUIPMENT ON CREW TRANSFER VESSELS ONLINE SEMINAR BROADCAST 22 APRIL 2020	 BUSINESS COMPENDIUM ONLINE SEMINAR BROADCAST 28 APRIL 2020

To browse and purchase the available videos please go to <https://bit.ly/2Ssv6Td>.

The IIMS series of online only Zoom seminars continues

Half a dozen online seminars have now been broadcast by IIMS with 'How to conduct a rig and mast survey' proving to be the most popular attracting nearly 100 delegates. Other well attended seminars have included 'An introduction to yacht coatings' and 'How to carry out a survey on a wind farm crew transfer vessel'. A big thank you to the presenters who have willingly shared their knowledge in their specialist areas.

Anyone can join and all seminars attract 5 CPD points too at this time.

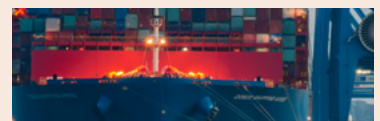
If you are unable to attend online live you may also request to purchase a copy of the video for watching after the event.

We have added a couple of new seminars and here's the revised line up of forthcoming seminars.

Broadcasting on 6th May at 12.00 (UK time)

Gathering evidence by Capt John Noble

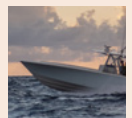
For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/33JVyf6>



Broadcasting on 11th May from 10.00 to 15.00 (UK time)

Certifying Authority training for all coding examiners and other interested surveyors

For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2QJMjX4>



Broadcasting on 14th May at 15.00 (UK time)

Giving expert witness by Karen Brain

For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2wCqp1h>



Broadcasting on 3rd June at 16:00 (UK time)

Superyacht Valuations and the role of the marine surveyor by Capt Phil Duffy

For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2VbzOF9>



Broadcasting on 18th June at 09.00 (UK time)

Report writing online seminar by Paul Homer and Mike Schwarz

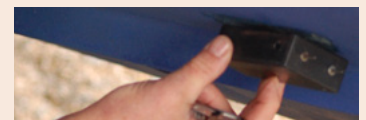
For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2QJMjN8>



Broadcasting on 29th June at 10:00 (UK time)

Moisture meters, the new Tramex and osmosis by Nigel Clegg

For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2wrKJCs>



Broadcasting on 21st July at 08.30 (UK time)

Multiple echo thickness measurement by Jon Sharland

For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2xjO3zy>



Broadcasting on 4th August at 12.00 (UK time)

Surveying and inspecting small craft engines by Geoff Waddington

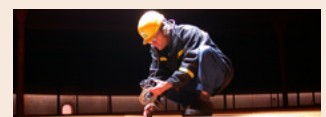
For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/2WHM4zE>



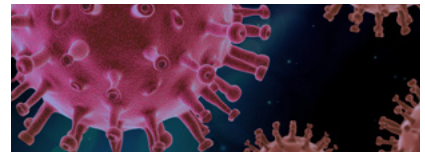
Broadcasting on 26th August at 15.00 (UK time)

The latest in ultrasound measurement tools by George Hunter

For details and to reserve your place go to <https://bit.ly/3dqbwzv>



COVID-19 Safety Working Guide – latest IIMS update



The points made in this updated COVID-19 Safety Working Guide produced by IIMS are essentially common sense suggestions and do not carry any official or authorised backing. Also, remember that advice will change periodically around the world in what is a fast moving situation. Thanks are due to Maurice Pickles, Capt Chris Kelly and the Workboat Association as additional reference sources.

The health and safety of marine surveyors, not just IIMS members, and other related personnel at this time is of primary importance and must not be compromised, especially when coming into contact with others during the course of their work. Whilst many marine surveyors are idle at this time, some have still been working in various parts of the world. But as Governments start to look at progressively loosening lockdown procedures, now is not a time to become complacent. COVID-19 remains active in our communities and is likely to remain a challenge for many months until a reliable vaccine is found; so great care should be taken for the foreseeable future to avoid contracting or spreading the disease. No matter if you are currently working, or plan to resume surveying and inspecting soon, here is some practical, common sense advice to help you keep safe.

Advice for commercial ship surveyors

- Check with the terminal operator to understand what COVID-19 precautions are in place as the attending surveyor may be denied access.
- Before a surveyor will attend the vessel the vessel operator, he/she should contact the vessel's Captain/Master by email or telephone prior to arrival.
- In that communication, he/she should discuss the electronic exchange of documentation, the scanning of documentation requiring a signature, social distancing requirements while on board and how to conduct the survey with minimum interaction with the vessel's crew.
- Travel Letters should be issued to attending surveyors in the event of them being stopped by government officials and other authorities and questioned.

The role of the Captain and/or Master

The Captain and/or Master must satisfy themselves of the following and report to the attending surveyor:

- That safe access will be provided to the vessel in accordance with local government, port and terminal regulations in force.
- That a COVID-19 risk assessment will be conducted in advance and a copy made available to the attending surveyor.
- That following preparation of the risk assessment, onboard procedures are in place for the implementation of social distancing, as far as is practicable.
- That the specified PPE equipment, in accordance with guidelines published by the IMO, is available to protect the crew and the surveyor from the transmission of COVID-19.
- That onboard facilities will be provided for the surveyor to wash their hands and dry them with disposable towels.
- That wherever possible preparations have been made by the vessel's crew to expedite the survey process.
- That in the event of either the health and safety of the surveyor or vessel's crew being compromised, the survey will be terminated immediately.

The role of the surveyor

The surveyor has a responsibility to:

- Decline or cancel a survey appointment if they have been in contact with someone else who has suffered COVID-19 symptoms in the 14 days before a survey.
- Decline or cancel a survey appointment if they themselves are showing symptoms of COVID-19.

- Decline or cancel a survey appointment if they are aware that the vessel to be inspected has been subject to health restrictions imposed by a government body in the 14 day period before survey.
- Decline or cancel a survey appointment where travel to the vessel would breach specific travel restrictions imposed by National, Regional or Local Governments, or require them to self-isolate upon returning home.
- Verify that travel to and from the port of survey can be completed in compliance with National, Regional and Local Government regulations in force at the time of travel.
- Comply with any additional safety precautions or PPE requirements deemed necessary by a port, terminal or vessel due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a minimum requirement, a surveyor should:

- Upon boarding the vessel immediately wash their hands using warm water and soap, or use hand sanitizer but only as a second measure.
- Wear suitable gloves that permit the surveyor to write and use a camera.
- Consider using a digital voice recorder.
- Use a face mask if considered appropriate.
- Avoid close personal contact when clearing terminal security (minimum 2 metres).
- Avoid close personal contact when clearing vessel security (minimum 2 metres).
- Stay outside the vessel's accommodation if possible and decline the offer of meals and refreshments, taking your own water onboard instead.
- Comply with social distancing requirements put in place by the vessel, terminal and, where applicable, the local government as far as is possible while onboard a vessel.
- Maintain a minimum 2 metre distance from all personnel during the survey where possible.
- Avoid the sharing of tools, electronic gadgets or stationery.
- After leaving the vessel, remove gloves, overalls and boots prior to getting into your vehicle and place in bin bags in the boot.
- Shower and change clothes prior to social contact after leaving the terminal.
- Wash working clothes at the end of the end of the working day to prevent contamination of your office and home at 56°C or hotter and tumble drying clothes to kill the virus.



It is a requirement to report any potentially COVID-19 affected person(s) transported by sea to the respective port health office: <http://www.porthalthassociation.co.uk/port-directory>

Some of the above advice also applies to yacht and small craft surveyors, but additionally:

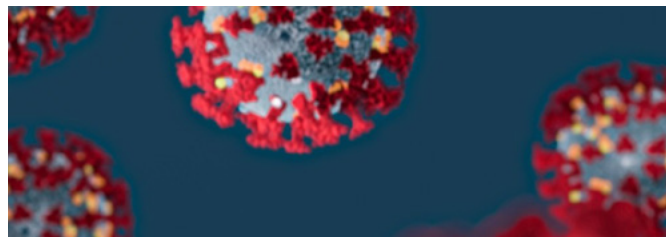
- Be aware that hand and guard rails could be a potential source of infection.
- Encourage owners, brokers and others to stay away so you can do the survey in isolation. If others must be present then use the social distancing requirements of a minimum of 2 metres.
- Use your own surveying tools and equipment only.

And finally a few other aspects of daily life for all to think about:

- If you are refuelling your vehicle en-route to survey be aware that fuel pumps are a potential source of infection, so use gloves and hand sanitizer once back in your vehicle.
- Bank ATMs are also said to present a serious risk of infection.
- Use contactless cards to pay for small sums rather than using key pads where possible.
- Avoid handling cash – bank notes and coins.
- Wear gloves if you need to use elevator buttons or activate the buttons with a pen.
- Avoid telephones and mobiles other than your own – they harbour millions of germs!
- Minimum contact with door handles is important.
- Contact with keys other than your own should be avoided.
- Science suggests COVID-19 can survive on glass, stainless steel and plastic for up to three days, so be mindful.
- Above all wear gloves and wash your hands regularly.



What price your personal safety against COVID-19?



"Now that you have read the recently updated IIMS COVID-19 Safety Working Guide in this news bulletin, I wanted to share with you a situation that left me feeling sick. I recently received an email from a highly experienced marine surveyor and eCMID Accredited Vessel Inspector, who had carried out something very similar to the advice that has been published. The response he received was shocking and a disgrace. Identities have been removed for obvious reason to protect those involved. Your thoughts are welcome."

Mike Schwarz

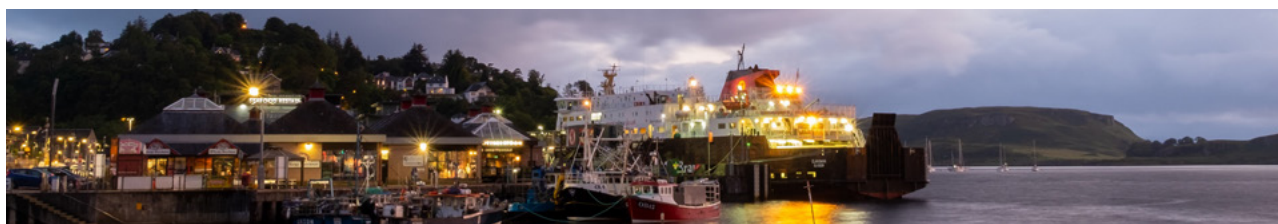
"I am a Master Mariner, eCMID AVI and AFNI. I have been employed in the maritime industry for almost 40 years. I am no longer at sea, for 20 years I have been a Marine Consultant/Surveyor and regularly perform services for numerous companies. Recently I was contacted by a company based in mainland Europe who requested my services to conduct a loadout survey on a vessel in a North East Scottish Port. I agreed to do the work scope and we agreed the terms for the job.

As I am a self-employed limited company I considered it prudent and responsible to draft what I thought were fairly standard safety procedures against COVID-19 that should be used and adhered to for the protection of all involved in a loadout survey. This document was prepared taking into account current guidance as is in the public domain from the UK Government, IMO, OCIMF, IMCA, IIMS and so on. I sent a copy of this document to the survey company and requested that this be sent to their client and/or the vessel so that we could be prepared for the survey and take into account the precautions required. Within minutes of sending this document, I was called and questioned why was I sending out such a document I was told that I could not make contact with their client under my own company logo, nor could I contact the ship and make "demands" on how they conduct their business. I was also told that we could not expect them to have a risk assessment in place. I challenged all of this and suggested that my document could be used by them on their own company note head to make clear how they wanted to conduct their business and protect their employees, associates and contractors against COVID-19. I was further told this was "Impossible" and that it was not my place to dictate to their clients or their ships how we conduct our business.

I was then advised that "they didn't know what to do" with my memo and needed time to consider it. I was told I would be called back later in the day. I received an email from them advising that I was no longer required for the survey. In a career spanning almost 40 years, I have never before been removed from a job. Not least for what I perceived to be a responsible and appropriate attitude to safety and one that could have highlighted and enhanced this company's status and reputation for their own attitude to safety and their personnel.

It is clear to me that despite this situation around COVID-19, this company has little regard for the control of this pandemic and only has their commercial interest as a priority. I question their entire ethic and culture around safety and welfare of their personnel."

Anon



Handy guide number 22 published: What a marine surveyor needs to know about surveying rigid inflatable boats (RIBs)

The marine surveyor may often be asked to survey one of the many rigid-hulled inflatable boats to be found around the world (commonly known as RIBs), which feature cushioned inflatable large diameter synthetic rubber tubes called sponsons around a simple rigid hull. RIBs are some of the most versatile boats available and are used as rescue boats in the UK by the RNLI, as patrol boats by the military, as workboats, as race boats in international competitions and as tenders to yachts. Because they are designed to travel at high speed – often in excess of 40 knots – RIBs plane over the top of the water surface and are subject to severe pounding loads on the bottom. For that reason, the marine surveyor must understand the hull construction and if the vessel is structurally sound and fit for the intended purpose.

The hull is most often constructed of fibreglass but may be of wood, steel or aluminium surrounded by an inflatable tube constructed of fibre reinforced rubber often called a sponson. Traditionally, a sponson was a structure that projected over the side of a ship or boat - most often a projecting gun platform or a support for paddlewheel boxes - but the name has been used for an air chamber built into the gunwale of a canoe or RIB.

Author, Elliott Berry, is a full member of IIMS and a Fellow of the Institution of Diagnostic Engineers of which he is also a Director and member of the council. He is also an Associate Member of The Royal Institution of Naval Architects. He regularly attends conferences and meetings to further his continuous professional development and has written articles for both the Report Magazine and Diagnostic Engineer.

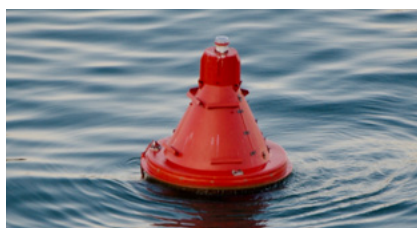
What a marine surveyor needs to know about surveying rigid inflatable boats (RIBs) is available in paperback format at £17 (plus postage and packing) or as a downloadable pdf at £15. Both versions are available on the IIMS website at <https://bit.ly/38N2PMV>.



More safety briefings available from the updated central IIMS database

The safety briefing area of the IIMS has become increasingly popular and well used since it was launched last year and can be found at <https://bit.ly/2V4QgtP>. The page lists dozens of reports with the outcome of incidents and accidents.

But additionally, IIMS has created a Main Safety Briefing Database in excel format that can be downloaded at the same web page as above. Just look for the link on the page. Download and save the document as a valuable reference point.



The spreadsheet has been subdivided for ease into categories for:

- MAIB reports
- US Coast Guard safety alerts and reports
- National Transportation Safety Board reports
- P&I Club alerts and reports
- CHIRP safety news bulletins
- IMCA Safety Flashes
- Miscellaneous other safety reports

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Contact the IIMS Head Office team

As always, the IIMS head office team are here to help you on any matters relating to your membership or education needs. Please contact the appropriate person as follows:

membership@iims.org.uk

for all membership enquiries (Camella Robertson)

education@iims.org.uk

for education course content and training information (Lorna Robinson)

tonnage@iims.org.uk

specific email address for tonnage paperwork and enquiries (Dave Parsons)

msa@iims.org.uk

for enquiries about Marine Surveying Academy affairs (Hilary Excell)

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information about the Marine Surveying Academy (Pui Si Chung)

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information about Marine Surveying Academy courses (Sharon Holland)

It is important that we keep our database and records up to date. Perhaps you have a web site address to add? If your contact details - address, email and telephone number - should change, please be sure to inform us immediately by email: **info@iims.org.uk** or call +44 23 9238 5223 (answer phone out of office hours).

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