

WHEN FIRE BREAKS OUT...



1

You Need to Know...

WHERE IS THE FIRE?

- 1 Smoke can be deceptive.
- 2 The first smoke may be some distance from the actual fire.

ARE PEOPLE AT RISK?

- 1 Where is the crew?
- 2 Are you sure?

WHAT IS BURNING?

- 1 What class of fire is it?
 - A
 - B
 - C
- 2 What started the fire?

HOW BIG IS THE FIRE?

- 1 Has it spread to more than one compartment?
- 2 Does it involve more than one type of material?

HOW COULD THE FIRE SPREAD?

- 1 Radiators?
- 2 Doors?
- 3 Bulkheads?
- 4 Open doors and hatches?
- 5 Ventilation systems?

2

You Need to Act...

SOUND THE ALARM!

- 1 General Alarm alerts the crew.
- 2 Distress call alerts rescuers.

ADJUST YOUR COURSE AND SPEED!

- 1 Minimize the effects of relative wind.
- 2 Heed for shallow water if appropriate.

CONFINE THE FIRE!

SET BOUNDARIES BY:

- 1 Closing doors and hatches.
- 2 Securing ventilation.
- 3 Securing power.
- 4 Securing fuel.

SAFEGUARD SURVIVAL CRAFT AND

EQUIPMENT

- 1 Liferaft or buoyant apparatus.
- 2 Personal flotation devices.
- 3 EP RB and/or portable radio.
- 4 Cell phone, if appropriate.

3

You Need to Decide...

ATTACK THE FIRE?

- 1 Can the fire be contained or extinguished without placing the crew at unnecessary risk?
- 2 Which represents the greatest chance of crew survival:
 - Abandonment.
 - Containment.
 - Extinguishment?

WHAT AGENTS ARE AVAILABLE?

- 1 Portable extinguisher?
- 2 Fire man?
- 3 Portable fire pump?
- 4 Fixed extinguishing system?

OFFENSIVE OR DEFENSIVE ATTACK?

- 1 Offensive seeks to extinguish the fire at its source.
- 2 Defensive seeks to prevent the fire from spreading beyond compartment boundaries.

DIRECT OR INDIRECT ATTACK?

- 1 Direct involves placing crewmembers in close contact with the fire.
- 2 Indirect involves fighting the fire remotely.
- 3 Fixed extinguishing system?



This aid is provided by Fremont Maritime Services, the India Tango Merit Fire Fighting Program, and the American Waterways Operators. It is intended to help mariners plan their response to fire aboard their vessels. Further documentation details that these procedures be discussed and practiced as part of an ongoing fire awareness training program.

