

## Severe defect on fire hoses

### Background

During inspection of fire protection equipment on board a relatively new fishing vessel, serious defects were found on several fire hoses with nozzles.

Corrosion had caused the coupling to separate from the fire hose.

Such damage renders the fire hose useless in the event of fire. Corrosion of such a character may also cause injury to personnel if the coupling breaks down when pressure is applied to the hose.

### Triggering cause

The main cause is that fire hoses are fitted with couplings that are not of seawater resistant material. Corrosion has advanced to the point where the coupling is corroded through. This has not been detected by the crew on board.

### Preventative measures

When installing this type of equipment, make sure that the equipment is approved for a maritime environment. The Norwegian Maritime Authority also wants to point out the importance of regular inspections and maintenance of fire hoses to ensure that the equipment is ready for use at all times. Fire drills must also be carried out according to the stipulated deadlines for the relevant vessel type. Testing of fire hoses should be included as a natural part of such drills.

### References

Act of 16 February 2007 No. 9 related to ship safety and security, section 6  
Relevant construction regulations for the current category of vessels



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