

# INCIDENT NEWSFLASH

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Ref: ES/2006/02

## “Gas Bottle Explosion”

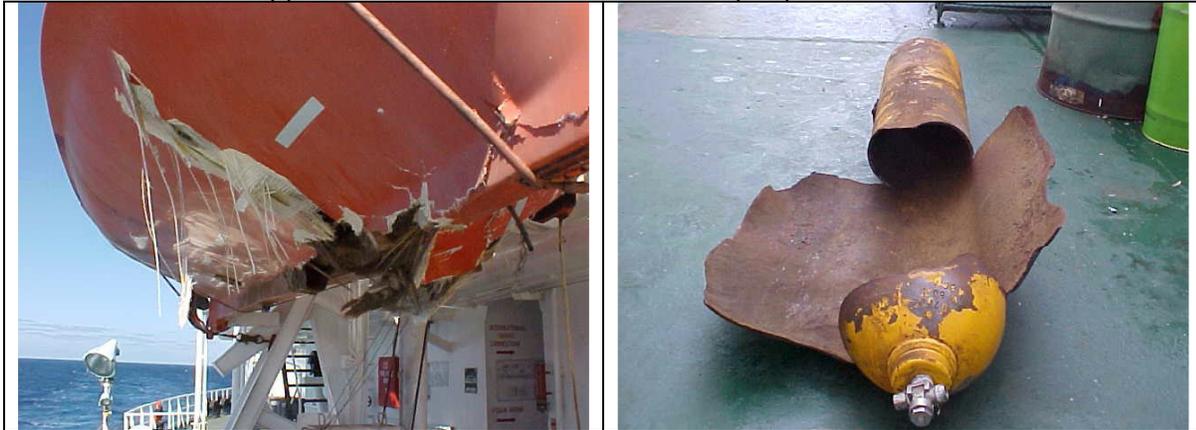
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### Summary Of Incident

A gas bottle exploded in a lifeboat of a vessel during the process of charging it up from the Breathing Apparatus Air Compressor.

The Master of the 8 years-old vessel was in proximity of the lifeboat and he was very seriously wounded. The bottle was quite old with different numbers/dates.

The photographs below speak for themselves. Unfortunately one person was injured – imagined the results if this happened on the deck area with more people around.



### Lessons Learnt

- (1) The incident related to Life Saving Equipment, which indicated the lack of inspections and maintenance programs.
  - (2) Ensure air cylinders or gas bottles are all in good condition. EU guidelines are:  
Visual inspections every 2 years and pass hydro-test requirements every 5 years
  - (3) Cylinder(s) in poor condition should not be moved or depressurized and should be roped off and warning sign(s) clearly displayed
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