

Talking Points: Breathe Easy

FOR USE DURING ONBOARD SAFETY MEETINGS



QUESTIONS

- Q What is shown in the picture?
- Q Where and when should this piece of equipment be worn?
- Q Can you operate the equipment supplied onboard this ship?
- Q Which gases can the equipment onboard this ship detect? Which can it not detect?
- Q What does it say in our onboard risk assessment and safety management system concerning the use of this equipment?

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ANSWERS

Q What is shown in the picture?

A A personal portable multi gas detector.

Q Where and when should this piece of equipment be worn?

A The equipment should be worn as your shipboard routines and SMS require. This can include cargo operations, entry into enclosed spaces, working with pipelines or at any other time a risk assessment deems necessary.

Q Can you operate the equipment supplied onboard this ship?

A Take some time to demonstrate the use of the equipment to crew members who may be required to use it. The demonstration should include, as a minimum, the basic functions of the equipment, its alarms, switching between different gases, and checking that the calibration is in date. Make crew members aware of the user's manual.

Now give crew members the chance to demonstrate features of the equipment to those present - let them be corrected by their shipmates should they be unsure over any of the functions of the equipment.

Q Which gases can the equipment onboard this ship detect? Which can it not detect?

A Discuss the gases the equipment can and can't detect and the situations in which these gases are most likely to be encountered.

Q What does it say in our onboard risk assessment and safety management system concerning the use of this equipment?

A Please review your onboard procedures for the use of personal portable gas detectors. You could expand the session by reviewing your entry into enclosed space procedures.