

Marine Safety Office Houston-Galveston
Marine Safety Unit Galveston
Vessel Traffic Service Houston-Galveston

Marine Safety Information Bulletin

03-04

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Safety Alert - Life boat gripes

The U.S. Coast Guard has experienced problems with lifeboat gripes on certain totally enclosed lifeboats. On some lifeboats, the ring on the released end of the gripe is larger than the gripe bollard or sternpost on the lifeboat. This may allow the ring to snag on the gripe bollard, causing the lifeboat to fall in an uncontrolled manner. This condition is unacceptable and may contribute to the loss of life during emergency evacuations or drills. The Coast Guard strongly recommends that owners and operators of vessels having any type of webbing or wire cable used in a griping/securing system should contact their lifeboat manufacturer and classification society immediately if the condition exists.

For additional information visit <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/moa/docs/gripe.htm>.



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