Crew overboard

presented by-
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preventing a crew overboard incident

- Your seamanship skills
- The readiness of your vessel
- Keeping pace with the conditions at hand
What keeps you on board

- Seafaring agility
- Well designed decks
- Good non-skid
- Hand holds, toe rails and lifelines
Safety gear

- Harness
- Jack lines
- Attachment
- PFD
When to use it

Both a skipper and crew decision
How reliable is your safety equipment?
PFD/harness maintenance

- Check for leaks
- Acclimate to use
- Don and doff
Inflation system

- Check
  - CO2 cylinder
  - Bobbin
  - Inflator
Risk level

- Wind velocity
- Sea state
- Composition of crew
- Vessel constraints
- Day/night
skipper’s call – individual responsibility

- ISAF guidelines
- Storm Trysail Club research
- *Blue Yankee* skipper’s advice
- *Snow Lion* crew loss
Who takes the lead

- Call out “man overboard”
- Throw floatation
- Deploy equipment?
- Execute Quickstop
Assign a lookout

- Press the MOB button
- Pan-Pan message VHF
- Prepare heaving line
- Ready hoist or recovery gear
Oceanic constraints
Higher risk in heavy weather

- Harness usage
- Check jacklines
- Clipping on and off
Beware of the unexpected

- Not a reality show
- Crew have all been trained
- Understand gear and tactics
Quickstop

- tack boat
- leave jib backed
- bare off downwind
- centerline main
- jibe
- round up toward victim
douse headsail

clear lines

start engine
Unexpected consequences

- reaction vs. reflex response
- emotional factor

safety drills

VICTIM
Off-the-wind
Victim recovery

- Secure to boat
- Hoist or haul
- Treat injuries
- Monitor condition
Safety precautions and sea state
seamanship = prepared for what lies ahead
Lending Assistance

1.1 A boat or competitor shall give all possible help to any person or vessel in danger
Evaluate situation

- Nature of problem
- Conditions aboard your own vessel
- Ability to render useful assistance
- Risk to your own crew
Risk assessment

- Degree of peril
- Timeliness of response
- Potential for disaster
- Other vessels involved
Decision making in extremis

- Do no harm
- Don’t inappropriately jeopardize your crew
- Build contingency plans
Communicate

- Contact USCG
- Contact vessel in distress
- Reach agreement
- Explain your response
Understanding chaos

- Fear, fatigue and failure
- Who’s in the crew
- Condition of those on board
- Agreement on rescue details
Crew training and vessel preparation

• Underway practice
• Winter maintenance
• Independent study
• Formal training
Sail America - Safety at Sea Seminar

0900  Man Overboard Recovery

0945  The Damage Control Toolbox

1030  Break

1045  Storm Sails and Handling Heavy weather

1130  ISAF Special Regulations

1200  Lunch

1300  The Weather Wise Sailor

1400  Liferaft Demo/ Liferaft Maintenance

1450  Gear for the Grab Bag

1520  Communications / Search and Rescue

1545  Questions and Closing Remarks