NTSB Forum on Cruise Ships

Regulatory Framework, Port State Control

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Traveling Inspection Staff
Cruise Ship Safety in the United States

Safety Governance that includes:

- International Regimes
- Industry Standards
- Class Society Rules
- Domestic Regulations
Cruise Ship Safety in the United States

Layered Safety Ladder that includes:

- Vessel crew
- Owner/operator
- Flag State
- Class Society
- Port State
Port State Control

• Process to examine visiting foreign flag ships for compliance with international & domestic standards
• Goal is to identify/eliminate substandard ships
• Encourage shippers to adopt management philosophies that ensure compliance with accepted standards.
• Hold substandard vessels accountable.
• Part of the overall maritime safety net.
Port State Control
Laws and Treaties

• International Treaties
  – SOLAS
  – ICLL
  – Tonnage
  – STCW
  – MARPOL

• 46 U. S. Code Chapters 33, 35, and 37
  – 33 – Ships in General
  – 35 – Passenger Ships
  – 37 – Tank Ships
Cruise Ship Port State Control

In 2013

- About 140 individual Cruise Ships from more than 16 different Flag Administrations visited the United States

Over last 4 years
- Averaged > 270 PSC exams
Examination Program

Robust examination program includes:

• Concept review
• Plan Review
• Overseas examinations
• Initial Examination at 1st US port
• Annual & periodic exams thereafter to maintain Certificate of Compliance
• Unannounced Exams
Top 10 Deficiencies

In 2013 the Top 10 Deficiencies were:

- Fire Screen Doors
- Lifeboats
- Means of Escape
- Improper Storage
- Drills and Training
- Oil Leaks
- Structural Deficiencies
- Electrical Safety
- Combustible Waste Bins
- Fire Detection
QUESTIONS ?