



**SWEDISH MARITIME  
SAFETY INSPECTORATE**

Ship Technical Division

1 (2)

Date  
17 December 2008

Our reference  
070206/08/22948

Your date

Your reference

Directorate General of Shipping  
Joint Director General  
Walchand Hirachand Marg  
Ballard Estate  
Mumbai 400 00  
India

Dear Sir,

It has come to the knowledge of the Swedish Maritime Safety Inspectorate that someone is producing counterfeit copies of the Swedish Hammar H20 hydrostatic releases for liferafts. To an untrained eye the copies look almost identical with the original product, with Hammar's logo and address on the labels, but there is, however, one very important difference: the copies do not work.

A ship-owner has recently purchased a number of Hammar H 20 hydrostatic releases from a ship chandler in Mumbai, India. The products came in boxes marked CM Hammar AB, Gothenburg, Sweden. The ship-owner tested the releases and lowered five of them into the water; only one of the hydros actually cut the line. They contacted CM Hammar AB in order to alert the company regarding the malfunction of the releases. The company asked them to return the faulty products, and when they arrived it was discovered that the products were not manufactured by the company. The ship-owner also returned five releases still in their boxes. The company have tested them, and not one worked properly according SOLAS specification (if they worked at all) and the LSA Code 4.1.6.

The Swedish Maritime Administration is very concerned about this situation. There may be a number of ships sailing with counterfeit hydrostatic releases. It is of utmost importance to find out who the manufacturer of these products is, and make him stop production and sale. The only lead to the producer, which the Swedish Maritime Administration has, is that the products were purchased at

**INTERNATIONAL SHIPS' STORES SUPPLIERS**

101, 'Navratan Building' 69  
P.D 'Mello\* Road, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Carnac Bunder  
MUMBAI – 400 009. INDIA  
Phone: 91-22-23440057  
Fax: 91-22-23439719

We ask for your kind assistance in this matter to obtain, if possible, more information regarding the origin of the counterfeit products. Please, do not

---

Postal address	Visiting address	Telephone	Telefax	E-mail
SE-601 78 Norrköping SWEDEN	Östra Promenaden 7	+46 11 19 10 00	+46 11 23 99 34	inspektion@sjofartsverket.se

Date  
17 December 2008

Our ref  
070206/08/22948

hesitate to contact our LSA-expert Roland Eklöf who can be reached at his e-mail address [roland.eklof@sjofartsverket.se](mailto:roland.eklof@sjofartsverket.se).

Yours sincerely,



Johan Franson  
Director of Maritime Safety

Cc

Pia Berglund  
Roland Eklöf  
Andreas Holmgren  
Jörgen Zachau

CM Hammar AB  
Henrik Palsson, Managing Director  
August Barks gata 15  
SE-421 32 Västra Frölunda  
Sweden  
Phone +46 (0)31 709 65 51  
Mobile +46 (0)706 31 74 45