

CHAPTER 33

DAMAGE CONTROL AND FIREFIGHTING STORES

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CHAPTER 33**DAMAGE CONTROL AND FIREFIGHTING STORES****3301. General**

- a. The majority of damage repair stores are supplied initially as either permanent or consumable naval stores, with some supplied as armament stores eg charges for the Ramset explosive powered fastening tool. A guide to the allowances for ships is given in BRd 2170(3) - CBRNDC Stores Catalogue for HM Surface Ships, HM Submarines and RFAs.
- b. Generally, stores used for damage repair consist of the following:
 - (1) Materials for shoring and the necessary tools for cutting and setting up shores.
 - (2) Leakstopping materials such as wedges, splinter boxes, patches and patch packs for the prevention of flooding through splinter holes and damaged structure.
 - (3) Equipment and tools for effecting pipe repairs, and the Ramset explosive-powered tool for light structural repairs, etc.
 - (4) Electrical equipment such as floodlights, lamps, fuses, etc, for effecting emergency repairs to the electrical system and for supplying light and power to areas being repaired.
 - (5) Equipment for wreckage clearance such as heavy and portable cutting apparatus and lifting gear.
 - (6) Portable lighting such as torches, caplamps, battery operated floodlights and Cyalume chemical illuminators which, when needed, provide emergency lighting for damage control and first aid parties, etc.

3302. Stowage

In most ships much of the different equipment required for damage repair is contained in built-in lockers sited at each Fire and Repair Party Post. Material such as shoring timber, softwood planks, adjustable steel shores, etc, which are too large to fit in the stowages should be distributed throughout the ship, with particular attention being given to accessibility under possible damage conditions. Damage repair stores should not be stowed so low in the ship as to be inaccessible should the compartment be flooded.

3303. Custody

It is not easy to ensure the safe custody of equipment in open stowages throughout the ship, but the loss of damage repair or firefighting equipment might have very serious consequences in an emergency. The responsibilities of officers in regard to Damage Control equipment are given in [Chapter 2](#), and as follows:

- a. Damage repair stores are initially taken into account by the Logistics Officer and the Armament Stores Accounting Officer (for explosive items).

b. Damage repair stores (except explosive stores) are to be issued to the MEO and placed around the ship as shown in the CBRNDC Class Book. The MEO is responsible for ensuring that these stores are periodically mustered and kept in a sound, workable, condition.

c. Firefighting stores, including breathing apparatus, are to be issued to the MEO and placed around the ship in authorised stowages as shown in the CBRNDC Class Book. They should be marked as suggested in [Para 3305](#), and issued by the MEO to the officers in whose departmental spaces they are normally stowed. Day to day care of the equipment is to be managed by the officer responsible for the particular space. The MEO is responsible for the periodical testing, maintenance and replenishment, as necessary, of all the issued equipment in accordance with the relevant maintenance schedules.

d. The few stores items needed for the maintenance and upkeep of the damage repair and firefighting equipment should be stowed in the MEOs ready-use store.

3304. Responsibilities for the Maintenance of CBRNDC Equipment

Maintainers, Compartment Custodians and the Whole Ship CBRNDC Qualified Rating (WSQ) all have a role to play in ensuring that CBRNDC equipment is fit for purpose and available for immediate use in an emergency as follows:

a. **Maintenance.** The maintenance of CBRNDC equipment is the responsibility of the equipment maintainer. The branch of the maintainer will normally be ME or WE and may vary from ship to ship. A maintainer must be allocated, by the ship, to each item of equipment either via an electronic maintenance schedule (eg UMMS) or an other maintenance scheduling tool. The maintenance will include the monitoring and recording, inspection and replacement of all CBRNDC equipments containing components that are subject to Life Expiry (LIFEX).

b. **Compartment Custodians.** Compartment custodians are responsible for ensuring that the correct CBRNDC equipment is stowed in their compartment and for recording any defects in the relevant defect log. Weekly Departmental DC checks will ensure the right equipment is in the right place, marked correctly and is ready for use in all respects.



Note. Any maintenance operations including the monitoring of test and LIFEX dates are the responsibility of the designated equipment maintainer.

c. **WSQ.** The WSQ is responsible for upkeep of the Master CBRNDC Training and Material Assessment Log, in which the compartment custodian checks are recorded. The WSQ is not responsible for the maintenance of any CBRNDC equipment, unless specifically designated as an equipment maintainer as described in [Para 3304 sub para a](#). The WSQ is to periodically (at least once every three months) carry out random spot checks around the ship to ensure that the system of inspection and maintenance is being carried out correctly and conscientiously.

d. Any item of CBRNDC equipment removed from its normal location during a CBRNDC incident or exercise is to be returned to that compartment in a serviceable condition. OOD (in harbour)/XO (at sea) are to ensure that compartment checks are carried out on completion of exercises and incidents. Should a defect be identified the faulty equipment is to be quarantined and returned to the maintainer and (wherever possible) a serviceable replacement provided to the compartment concerned.

3305. Marking

A standard method of marking all damage repair and firefighting equipment should be used to establish ownership and responsibility, deter personnel from unauthorised removal (or help in subsequent tracing) and facilitate mustering and maintenance. Suitable identification tallies can be made by ships staff and secured to all such portable equipment except hoses and nozzles.

3306. Explosives and Pyrotechnics for Damage Control

Explosives and pyrotechnics supplied for Damage Control purposes are to be taken into account by the Armament Stores Accounting Officer and stowed in the magazines and stores as laid down in JSP 862 Parts 1, 2 and Addendum - MOD Maritime Explosive Regulations - Surface Ships, Submarines and MAPS. They are to be issued to the MEO or the DCO when needed.

3307. Arrangements in War

In peacetime much of the personal issue DC equipment is held in the Logistics Officers stores. In war this will be issued to individuals as directed and arranged by the MEO. The items then become the personal responsibility of the recipients, Divisional Officers being responsible for their periodical mustering, inspection and testing. In war, as in peace, medical stores for first aid purposes are to be placed around the ship by the Medical Officer in the first aid stowages at quarters and first aid posts. The Medical Officer is responsible for their periodical mustering and turnover.

3308. Access to Equipment Lockers at Fire and Repair Posts

Quick access to fire lockers in an emergency is ensured by the provision of a duplicate key in a glass-fronted key box secured to these lockers. The remaining keys of the fire lockers and damage control lockers are held in HQ1/SCC for distribution when required. It is possible that a physical barrier, caused by smoke, fire or damage, might delay the delivery of keys from HQ1/SCC to the fire and repair party post needing them. Therefore, duplicate keys of damage control lockers are to be clearly tallied and placed in a small box or bag and stowed within the appropriate fire locker.

3309. FRPP Locker Contents and Contents Lists

HM Ships (excluding MM/PP, submarines and RFAs) are provided with standardised Fire and Repair Party Post lockers containing an allowance of Damage Control stores in dedicated stowages. Large items are stowed near the lockers. These standard lockers are combined for damage control, electrical repair and fire party stores. Dedicated 'M' and 'L' toolkits can be taken to the scene of an incident by maintainers, enabling simple repairs without constant recourse to the tools in the FRPP locker. A list of standard locker contents and a diagram of locker layout is published in BRd 2170(3).

A copy, together with a list of the larger items stowed nearby should be displayed on the inside of the locker doors. MM/PPs and RFAs which are not provided with standard lockers are to retain the stores listed in BRd 2170(3) Chapter 3 and display a list of locker contents, and larger DC stores stowed nearby, on the inside of the locker doors.

3310. Defective Damage Control Equipment

Reports of defective material or design in DC equipment are to be forwarded on Form S.2022, in accordance with BRd 1313 - Maintenance Management in Ships. The procedure for reporting defective DC clothing is detailed in [Para 2520](#).