

## ***Fassmer Duplex Release Gear Systems***

Dear Business Partner,

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has moved to set higher standards for all on-load release hooks for existing lifeboats as well as for new crafts. We expect the new standards, set out in revision of the LSA- Code, Reg. 4.4.7.6 as drafted in IMO- MSC.86/26/Add.2/ Annex 15 to be adopted in 2010 and to come into force in 2012. From that date all new boats will have to have DE52 compliant hooks, and all existing boats with hooks which do not meet certain key standards will have to be rehooked or have existing hooks upgraded at the next drydocking.

The Fassmer Duplex release gears from 2.5T to 23T comply with the new hook criteria, confirmed by German Flag Administration.

One of the criteria is the release angle of the release bolt cam- DE52 set out a release angle of minimum 45°. While all new Fassmer boats since July 2009 have the release angle adjusted to 45° – 55°, it is possible that previous production Fassmer boats could have a smaller release angle. These systems of less than 45° angle can be easily adjusted / modified to the newly required angle of at least 45°.

For improved safety and compliance with coming rules, Fassmer offers the possibility to check the release angle during annual service or 5-yearly service done by one of our world wide service partner.

If the release gear does not have the required release angle of 45° and customer would like to have the release angle adjusted to 55°, the release bolts have to be replaced by new release bolts and the release gear has to be adjusted to the correct release angle of 55°. After re-adjusting a 110% overload test is required in order to check the simultaneous release of the release gear.

Replacing of the release bolts and adjusting of the release angle can be done during 5-yearly service.

Earlier adjustment during the annual service is possible on request.

After check of release angle and adjustment, if required, Fassmer will issue a confirmation that the Duplex release systems complies with the new hook regulations in the LSA- Code, Reg. 4.4.7.6 as drafted in IMO- MSC.86/26/Add.2/ Annex 15 for new lifeboat installations.

Mounting and adjusting of the release gear devices is only allowed to be carried out by Fassmer trained and authorized service engineers.

Regards,

Fassmer Service GmbH&Co. KG

(issued electronically therefore not signed personally)

