

TOWING



Member's Name:	Member's Number:
EVALUATION CRITERIA	
<p>Tow (Stern and Alongside) a disabled vessel and safely moor. This drill checklist applies only to facilities with towing capabilities.</p> <p>A drill will automatically be deemed unsatisfactory if any of the following conditions are met: (S)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeopardizing safety of passengers and crew (i.e., Engine Cutoff Switch, jewelry, etc.) • Unsafe operation or navigation of the boat • Failure to wear and use serviceable crew safety and survival equipment. • Failure to properly assign and utilize crewmembers. • Failure to use applicable operational risk management and updating as necessary. <p>(COX) required for Coxswain. (BCM) required for Crewmember. All steps with an (S) must be performed for a satisfactory drill by the crew position(s) indicted.</p>	

PREPARATIONS:	
<p>(S) Establish communications with distressed vessel, advise people to don PFDs, determine material condition of vessel and get details of deck layout / fittings / backing plates / size of cleats, determine physical condition of people of distressed vessel, ask distressed vessel if anything has changed since initial contact with CG (if not come upon). (COX)</p>	
<p>(S) Conduct boat crew briefing. Determine type of towing connection. (Bridle (single or double), Shackle or Skiff Hook). (COX)</p>	
<p>(S) Make up tow rig. Set up the deck with equipment staged and ready, heaving lines to the tow rig (if needed), and assign crew members who will be on the heaving lines, tow bitt, and line handler. (COX) & (BCM)</p>	
<p>(S) Perform on scene assessment. (COX)</p>	
<p>(S) Before the tow, brief disabled vessel on the following: (COX)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the towing vessel approach. • Tell towed vessel when and how tow rig will be passed. • Explain hook up procedure / tow rig connection. • Safety instructions (approach, line handling, passing of towline and the towing evolution) • Chafing gear fitting for towing line or bridle (if used). • Breakaway procedure/signals 	
<p>(S) Ensure that the operator of the distressed boat understands the above procedures. (COX)</p>	
STERN TOW:	
<p>(S) Maneuver towing boat into an optimum position or safest approach as determined by Coxswain. (COX)</p>	
<p>(S) Coxswain instructs crewmember pass heaving line/tow line to disabled vessel. (COX) & (BCM)</p>	
<p>(S) Pay out tow line and tend line away from boat's propulsion. (BCM)</p>	
<p>(S) Coxswain instructs crewmember to take working turn on the bitt after towline is secured on disabled vessel. (COX) & (BCM)</p>	
<p>Set initial course. (COX)</p>	

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Member's Name:	Members' Number:
(S) Coxswain instructs crewmember pay out appropriate length of towline. Adjust scope of towline to put towed vessel in step. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain instructs crewmember to make up the bitt. (COX) & (BCM)	
Rig chafing gear where needed and at the command of the coxswain. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Set and maintain tow watch. (COX) & (BCM)	
Notify Unit of towing status. (COX)	
(S) Once disabled vessel in under tow, brief the towed vessel the following: (COX) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency break away procedures/ back up emergency signals. • Operating instructions (steer behind, etc.) • Communications schedule. 	
(S) Display proper navigation lights and sound signals for weather conditions. (COX)	
(S) Maintain safe towing speed. (COX)	
ALONGSIDE TOW:	
(S) Brief crew on procedures. Determine backdown approach or free approach. (COX)	
(S) Brief disabled vessel on procedures. (COX)	
(S) Prepare deck for alongside tow (i.e., rigged fenders and make alongside lines ready). (BCM)	
(S) On command from Coxswain, crewmember break down the tow bitt or cleat. (COX) & (BCM)	
BACKDOWN APPROACH (if used)	
(S) Slow speed in increments and shorten tow if needed. Maintain positive control of the tow and keep towline in view and appropriate relative position while shortening tow. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain directs crewmember to break down tow bitt or cleat. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain directs crewmember to haul towline slack aboard (do not pull towed vessel) from either the Port or Starboard quarter of the facility keeping the towline away from the propellers(s) and fake the towline out of the way. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain directs crewmember to walk the towline forward to the bow of the facility and fake the towline out of the way. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Once towed boat is alongside the facility, Coxswain directs crewmember to move towline to the #1-line position (bowline) or replaced towline with another line. (COX) & (BCM)	
FREE APPROACH (if used)	
(S) Slow speed in increments and shorten tow if needed. Maintain positive control of the tow and keep towline in view and appropriate relative position while shortening tow. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain directs crewmember to break down tow bitt or cleat. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain directs crewmember to haul towline aboard from either the Port or Starboard quarter of the facility keeping the towline away from the propellers(s), and fake the towline out of the way. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Once all towline is onboard facility, Coxswain safely maneuvers alongside disabled vessel to pass alongside lines. (COX) & (BCM)	

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Member's Name:	Member's Number:
RIG TOWLINES	
(S) Passed eye of all lines to towed boat and working ends used on the facility and secure lines as directed by the Coxswain (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain instructs crewmember to pass and control lines appropriately. Order should be #1 (bowline), #2 (tow strap), #4 (stern line), & #3 (backing line). (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) All other lines adjusted by vessel gaining headway, taking up slack, and lines secured. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Energize appropriate navigation lights, as needed. (COX)	
Notify Unit of towing status. (COX)	
Moor Disabled Vessel:	
(S) State the expected effects of the wind and current on the mooring of the boat. (COX)	
(S) Brief crew on the procedure to be used and assign duties. Emphasized the necessity for communications between crew and coxswain. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Brief towed boat on mooring method, location, and procedures. (COX)	
(S) Coxswain brief pointer on giving distances to the pier or float. (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Coxswain assigned pointer to position. (Pointer may be assigned on towed vessel for better visibility). (COX) & (BCM)	
(S) Approach float or pier slowly, at an angle. (COX)	
(S) Safely moor assisted vessel. (COX)	
Notify Unit of towing status. (COX)	
COMMENTS	