## **Templates for Written Safety Procedures for Small fishing vessels**

## **Fire Fighting**

- 1. Whoever sees the fire shouts "Fire in the [location]!" Other crewmembers not at the helm should grab a fire extinguisher or hose and come to the location.
- 2. Master If in port, call the local fire department (number). If underway, advise shore authorities of vessel location and situation once the assessment has been provided.
- 3. Determine the extent of the fire, whether it requires special treatment, e.g., electrical, and advise the Master or direct someone to advise the Master what the situation is.
- 4. While the fire is being assessed, other crew members can:
  - close windows and vents to cut off air supply.
  - prepare fire extinguishers, hoses and first aid kit; and
  - prepare lifesaving equipment in case abandonment is required.
- 5. If the fire is small and it can be fought without crew being in danger of being trapped, do so.
- 6. Do NOT try to fight a fire if:
  - it is generating a substantial amount of smoke.
  - it is in close proximity to other flammable or combustible materials.
  - it's too large to handle with one extinguisher: or
  - it could cut off your exit.
- 7. 6 Stand at least six feet from the fire and keep your EXIT at your back.
- 8. Think of the word PASS, which will prompt you for each of the four following steps:
  - P pull the pin on the fire extinguisher
  - A Aim the nozzle of the extinguisher at the BASE of the fire
  - S Squeeze the handle lever
  - S Sweep from side to side.
- 9. Work the extinguishing agent over the entire surface of the fire, starting at the closest point and forcing the fire BACK and out.
- 10. If fire hose available and this is not an electrical or grease or oil fire, use it.
- 11. If successful, have someone advise the Master while you keep watch in case the fire starts up again.

- 12. If your extinguisher runs out or the fire is too big, get out and shut the door. Use the fixed firefighting system.
- 13. Master monitor the situation while maneuvering to keep the fire out of the wind. Determine whether the risk of fire spreading or of explosion warrants abandoning ship.
- 14. Keep authorities and the company advised.
- 15. Complete an incident report form and advise company and authorities as necessary.