INSURANCE SURVEY PREPARATION



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How to prepare your boat for an *Insurance Survey*

So, you have been requested by you Insurance provider to supply an Insurance Survey Report prior to your next renewal.

The first question you must ask is do they require an out of water inspection?

If so the vessel will need to be hauled out of the water for the survey and you may wish to take this opportunity to conduct preventative maintenance & re-antifoul.

Please however ensure that all maintenance work is completed prior to the day of survey.



Ideally you should start preparing your vessel on the day you buy it by ensuring that it is well maintained and by keeping a service log with receipts to demonstrate your proactive approach to general & preventative maintenance.

The following check lists are designed as a guide to assist owners to prepare their vessel for an insurance survey.

So how should you prepare your boat for an Insurance Survey?

Provide relevant documentation to include:

- Ship's papers (Certificate of Registry, Builder's Certificate etc).
- International check in papers (Marine Dept. & Customs).
- Access to the vessel's manuals.
- A detailed ship's inventory and service history.
- A list of any known deficiencies.
- Certificates for all recent safety equipment inspections
- (life raft, fire suppression systems, EPIRB etc.).
- Engine maintenance and service records.
- Crew certificates of competencies
- Receipts for recent repairs & upgrades.

A proactive vessel owner would:

- Fix items that are not operational.
- Check the expiry date on safety equipment replacing equipment as required.
- Ensure the fire suppression systems are serviced as per the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Sailing vessel owners with standing rigging of +7 years would have the rig inspected and a recent written report provided by a qualified Rigger.



- Engine(s) are operational.
- Exhaust systems are in good condition.
- All hose ends should be double clamped.
- Anchor winches are operational.
- Electrical systems (AC & DC) are operational with batteries fully charged.
- Navigation and communication equipment is in good condition and operational.
- Tanks are accessible for inspection.
- Sails, winches and running rigging are ready for inspection.

Prior to the survey inspection ensure:

- Maintenance work has been completed.
- Reasonable access to all the vessel's systems.
- Cabin sole boards are made removable.
- Seacocks & through hull fittings are in good condition.
- Raw water hoses are double clamped and rusty clamps are replaced, as necessary.
- Bilge pumps and float switches are operational.
- Bilges are clean & dry.



This is a guide only and not a complete list of items that will be checked during the survey.

On the day of survey:

- Be present during the survey inspection or appoint an owner's representative familiar with the vessel to power up machinery/equipment and answer any questions the Surveyor may have.
- Arrive well before the appointed time and switch on air conditioners or open all windows & hatches.
- Fit exterior cushions and sunbeds.
- Do not start or run machinery such as the engines or generators.
- Turn on all lights (inside & out) and power up the navigation equipment.
- Display all safety equipment for inspection.

Adequate preparation will ultimately make everything easier for you, the surveyor, and your insurer.

Should you have any questions regarding survey preparation please don't hesitate to ask.

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