



VISIT BOARD SEARCH & SEIZURE REFERENCE GUIDE

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1. REVIEW CHECKLIST

| TASK | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|
| Team Selected for Boarding | | |
| Observations | | |
| Questions | | |
| Intelligence | | |
| Risk assessment | | |
| Plan review with each team member | | |
| Inform master of your plan (board YES or NO) | | |
| Equipment for boarding (personnel, documents, tools) | | |
| Codewords | | |
| Identify side of vessel to board | | |
| Identify where muster must take place | | |
| Final instructions to master | | |
| Approach, Horseshoe, Embarkation | | |
| Split responsibilities (BO, ABO, Sweep Teams) | | |
| Final communication, Complete boarding, Disembark debriefs | | |

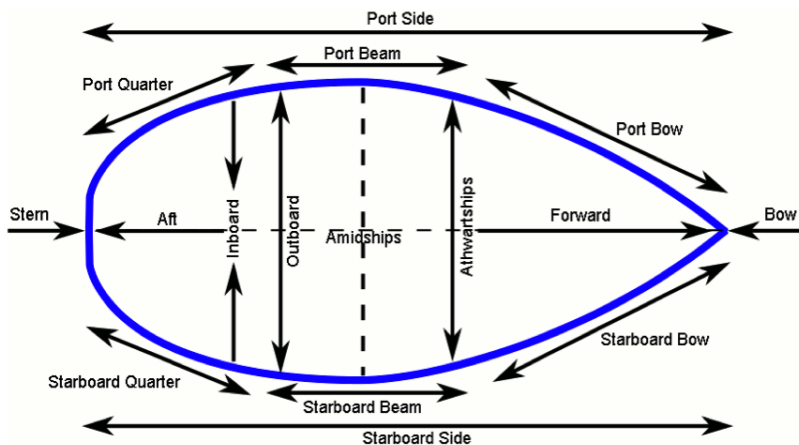
2. BOARDING EQUIPMENT

- PPE
- SEARCH EQUIPMENT
- EVIDENCE GATHERING
- SOUNDING TAPE
- MIRROR
- MEASURING TAPE
- FLASHLIGHT
- PADS, PENS, PENCILS
- RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION
- CHECKLISTS
- BOARDING LADDER
- TEAM RADIOS
- CAMERA



3. INSTRUCTIONS TO MASTER AND VESSEL OF INTEREST (VOI)

- PREPARING TO BOARD
- COURSE AND SPEED
- VESSEL CONFIGURATION
- INSTRUCTION TO MASTER
- INFORM OF YOUR INTENTION
- NO ASSISTANCE REQUIRED
- PREPARE VESSEL DOCUMENTS AND PASSPORTS
- MUSTER CREW IN OPEN AREA



4. SAFETY RULES

FIVE SAFETY RULES

1. Always work in pairs



2. Account for all crew members



3. Watch your line of fire



4. Protect your weapon



5. Prevent tunnel vision



5. BOARDING PREPARATIONS HORSESHOE CONTINGENCY PLANS

- TYPE OF VESSEL
- NAME AND IMO NUMBER
- HOW MANY CREW MEMBERS ON DECK
- MUSTER OF THE CREW
- EMBARKATION AND DISEMBARKATION POINT
- REACTION OF THE CREW
- SCUFF MARKS ON THE HULL
- FLAG STATE (SHOWN/FLOWN)
- SIZE AND SPEED OF VESSEL.
- SEA STATE
- WIND SPEED
- HAZARDS OBSERVED
- SIZE OF THE BOARDING TEAM

6.1. VESSEL SEARCH

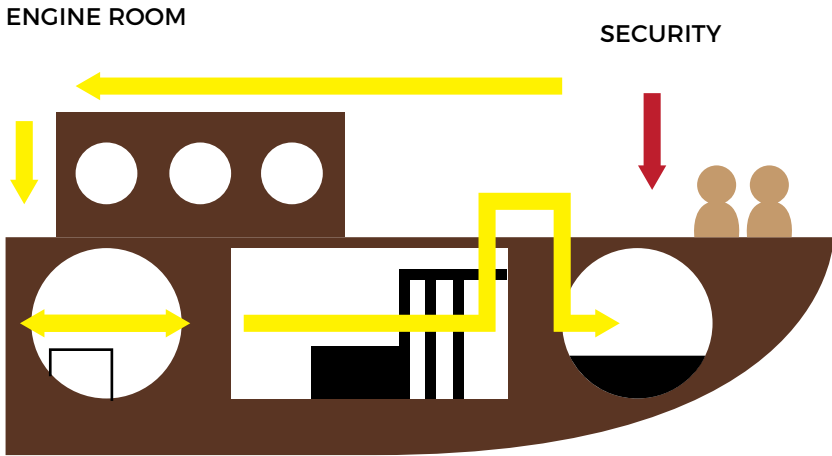


1. Draw a sketch plan of the vessel.
2. Divide the search area into manageable parts (e.g. bow exterior/interior, mid-ship exterior/interior, stern exterior/interior, cabins, cargo hold, engine area, below the waterline).
3. Search each area systematically and safely, overlapping where necessary.
4. Complete the search in each area before moving on to the next (even if evidence is found).

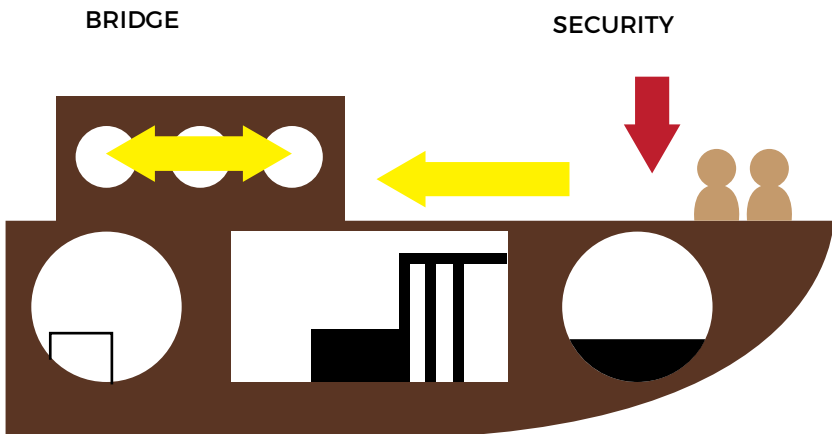
6.2. VESSEL SEARCH

VESSEL SEARCH TEAMS (COMPLIANT VESSEL)

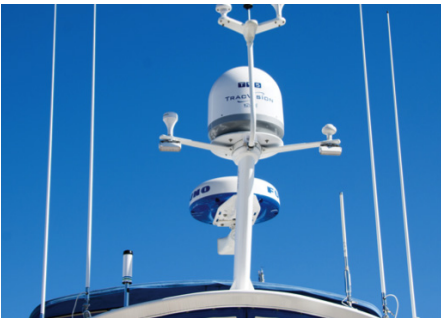
ABO + SEARCH TEAM + CHIEF ENGINEER



BO + SEARCH TEAM + MASTER



7. HIDDEN COMPARTMENTS



THINGS TO LOOK FOR

- FRESH PAINT
- NEW WELDING
- NEW FIBREGLASS
- TOO MANY ELECTRONICS
- FRESH MARKS ON BOLTS
- DRAG MARKS ON DECK
- MASTER NOT ON BOARD
- Demeanor of crew
- NUMEROUS ANTENNAS
- CREW UNFAMILIAR WITH VESSEL
- UNUSUAL CARGO TYPE FOR VESSEL

8. EVIDENCE PRESERVATION

1. Before moving an object, photograph it in the location where you found it.
2. Complete an evidence label. Place the label on the evidence bag before putting the object inside.
3. Using gloves, place the object into the labelled evidence bag.
4. Seal the bag completely.
5. Hand the bagged item to the ABO.

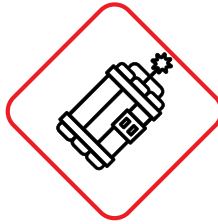


9. DANGEROUS CHEMICALS

Traffickers often mis-declare, mis-label or remove labels from containers making identification difficult – never assume the substance is what a suspect declares. A field test kit is a good way to indicate the presence of a controlled precursor. Always use gloves, masks and safety goggles when handling chemicals.



COMPRESSED GAS



EXPLOSIVE



IRRITANT



CORROSIVE



FLAMMABLE



OXIDIZING



ENVIRONMENTALLY DAMAGING



HEALTH HAZARD



TOXIC

10. BISI/ISI AND EISI

BASIC/INITIAL SAFETY INSPECTION (DONE ON EVERY BOARDING)

1. Explain to master what you are going to do and why (compliant).
2. Identify potential safety hazards.
3. Assess seaworthiness of vessel.

EXTENDED INITIAL SAFETY INSPECTION (MORE INTRUSIVE SEARCH DONE FOR 4 REASONS)

1. To locate and secure KNOWN weapons.
2. To locate and secure unaccounted personnel.
3. To address specific safety hazards.
4. If you have suspicions of illegal activity onboard the vessel.

11. BOARDING REPORT

Once you have received information from a source it is important to complete an intelligence report as soon as possible. It should comply with your agency's guidelines and contain the following information:

- Date of the report subject
- Name of officer completing the report
- Account of the information provided
- Explain: Who, What, When, Where, Why and How
- Your assessment of :
 - (a) the reliability of the source
 - and
 - (b) the accuracy of the information

12. IMPORTANT PHRASES AND QUESTIONS

Name and nationality of master and crew?

Last port of call?

Next port of call?

How many persons onboard ?

Muster all crew at..... (Bow, Stern, Midship)

We do NOT need any assistance when boarding.

Without REACHING or TOUCHING do you have any weapons onboard?

Make weapon SAFE and split magazine from weapon (if trained to do so).

We will now search the ship (engine room and bridge).

I need the chief engineer to take me to the engine room.

I need the master to take me to the bridge.

Prepare ships and crew documentation for inspection.

Are there any health issues with your crew or persons onboard?

Please give your cooperation.



If you would like to know more about what the UNODC is doing to support states in combating maritime crime:

Visit our website: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/piracy/index.html>

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