

# Lessons Learned LL2022 – 5000

## Worn out lifejacket buckles

**Type of Incident:** Asset damage

### Short Description

Safety equipment officer reported that 4-5 lifejackets on lifeboat deck had worn out buckles.

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Safety equipment officer reported that 4-5 lifejackets on lifeboat deck had worn out buckles. It was possible to disconnect with minor shaking.

Vessel investigated possibility to replace only buckles but this was not recommended as the worn part was sewed to the lifejacket.

Before ordering new lifejackets, a thorough test was done on all lifejacket buckles on the lifeboat station. It was now found 17 lifejackets with not acceptable turnbuckles, and they appeared to become looser every time they were tested. The reason is a wear down of the plastic in the buckles over more than 20 years stored in a box exposed to heat, cold, salt.



### Causes (Immediate and Root Cause)

#### Immediate cause:

Failure to check/monitor

#### Root causes:

Inadequate procedure/work description

#### Actions / recommendations:

1. Share and discuss the event at next GSM
2. Carry out inspection of all life jackets and do proper testing of the buckles