



SAFETY MANAGEMENT MANUAL

ATL 6.4 R/V Atlantis SMALL BOAT OPERATIONS

Originator:	Approved By:
Peter T. Leonard, Jr.	A.D. Colburn

1. Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to set forth guidelines for small boat operations and the qualifications for small boat operators.

2. Responsibility

Small boat operations are conducted at the direction of the Master. The Chief Mate oversees the training of operators and qualified operators give the practical instruction.

The Bosun is in charge of the deck during launch or recovery of small boats. While a boat is underway, the boat operator is in command and responsible for the embarked personnel and safe operation of the boat.

3. References

The Avon Training Guide
Outboard Motor Manufactures Manuals
Rules of the Road
Atlantis Hand Signals (posted on board)

4. General

Prior to the commencement of a launch, the bridge will verify the readiness of the launch crew via a VHF radio check with the boat operator. When it is time to launch the boat, the bridge will indicate a "go" signal by a single blast of the ship's whistle. The ship will be used to create a lee as necessary. The Bosun will direct the launching of the boat. He/she will direct the crane operator and line handlers in voice and/or hand signals.

In times of rough weather or as Alvin operations warrant, the Chief Mate or Master may elect to change the small boat operator to a more experienced person. An extra person (Bow Hook) may also be supplied by the Chief Mate, Master, or may be requested by the small boat operator. It is also prudent under certain circumstances that the extra person be a "qualified swimmer."

Once the boat is released from the crane hook, the boat operator assumes the responsibility for the boat operations. The operator must maintain radio contact with the ship.

Prior to recovery, the operator shall request permission to come alongside. The bridge indicates permission is granted via VHF radio and creates a lee if necessary. Once the bow and stern lines have been passed to the ship, and the operator has



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indicated the boat is ready to be hoisted, the responsibility for deck recovery operations reverts to the Bosun.

5. Training

To become recognized as a qualified small boat operator, the individual shall:

- A. Understand the use and care of the equipment and the operations from pre-launch to recovery and securing,
- B. Review and have a basic understanding of the Reference materials,
- C. Receive practical training by qualified operators that includes observation of all aspects of the operation and then shall operate with a qualified operator supervising until ready to solo. Readiness to solo is determined by the Chief Mate.
- D. Undergo a practical test = solo performance
- E. Take an oral test, administered by a qualified Small Boat Operator designated by the Chief Mate.

NOTE: The intention of the oral test is for the new candidate to demonstrate knowledge and or skills needed for a small boat operator in addition to a standard Alvin launch and recovery. Refer to page 3 for sample questions.

NOTE: The Master and the Chief Mate reserves the right to revoke any operator's certification if, in the opinion of either, an operator is in violation of safety standards or operating the boat in a manner which endangers personnel.

6. Recording

Upon completion of the above requirements to the satisfaction of the Chief Mate, "Small Boat Operator" shall be added to the Training Section of the crewmember's personnel record in NS5.



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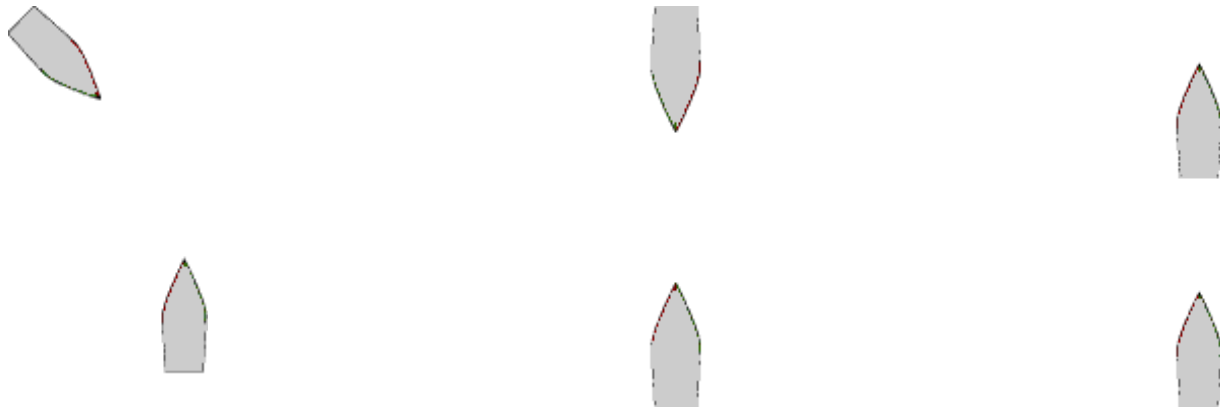
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This is a sample test of questions that should be asked of potential small boat operators. This is not an absolute list; more questions can and should be asked.

Small boat operator's test:

1. Demonstrate the procedure for warming up the Honda engine.
2. Besides a pinched fuel line, describe two possible causes for the engine to stall.
3. Describe what to do in the following "rules of the road" scenarios.



4. Where are the lights located on the Avon?
5. What are some of the cautions an Avon operator must observe with respect to swimmers?
6. Name four items that are part of the recovery equipment?
7. Name six items that are considered safety equipment?
8. Besides not smoking, what is another precaution with respect to fueling?
9. Demonstrate the method for inflating the pontoons.
10. What is the role of the Avon operator if a swimmer indicates the sound powered phone is not functioning properly?
11. Demonstrate how to check the air pressure in the bottle.
12. Demonstrate how the air bottle will be attached to Alvin, if needed, and why.