Lifeboat Safety Stats and Facts



FACTS

1. Lifeboats have watertight compartments that prevent them from sinking, even if one or more compartments are breached.
2. Lifeboats are equipped with self-bailing systems. These systems automatically drain water that enters the lifeboat, helping to keep it afloat and stable.
3. Modern lifeboats are often equipped with advanced navigational and communication systems, such as GPS, radar, and radio, to aid in rescue operations and maintain contact with authorities.
4. Lifeboats are designed to withstand extreme conditions at sea, including high winds, heavy seas, and extreme temperatures.
5. Lifeboats are equipped with advanced safety features, such as automatic identification systems (AIS), which allow them to be tracked by nearby vessels and rescue authorities for quick response.
6. Some lifeboats are equipped with emergency propulsion systems, such as outboard motors or water jets, to provide additional maneuverability and control in challenging situations.
7. Lifeboat launching systems have evolved over time. Modern ships use davits or gravity-assisted launching systems that enable controlled and safe deployment of lifeboats into the water.
8. Lifeboats are often painted in bright colors, such as orange or yellow, to enhance their visibility.

STATS

- The Association’s work has revealed there have been 420 deaths involving lifeboats, 346 serious injuries, and 116 minor injuries.

Human beings were not the primary cause of lifeboat accidents.

- 23.8% of accidents were due to issues relating to equipment.
- 1 in every 5 accidents involved the boat/crew falling into the water.
- 1 in every 13 accidents happened when the lifeboat was in the stowed position.
- There have been 481 deaths involving lifeboats, while hundreds more have been injured.