

Diversion report published

News story

Carbon monoxide poisoning on board a motor cruiser at Museum Gardens quay, River Ouse, York, with the loss of 2 lives.



Our investigation report into the double fatality due to CO poisoning from Diversion's cabin heater on 4 December 2019, is now published.

Statement from the Chief Inspector of Marine Accidents:

The MAIB investigation into this tragic loss of lives once again highlights the importance of installing carbon monoxide alarms on boats with enclosed accommodation spaces. This is the fifth fatal marine accident investigated since 2014, where a functioning carbon monoxide alarm could have saved lives. Carbon monoxide alarms suitable for the marine environment are readily available, inexpensive and simple to fit, and I urge boat owners to invest in one as soon as possible.

It is commonplace for marine engines, generators, cookers and heaters to produce carbon monoxide during normal operation; amateur installation and un-serviced appliances can introduce the risk of boat users inhaling lethal levels of this toxic gas. The importance of checking the installation and routine servicing of all such devices by a professional cannot be overstated.

The report contains details of what happened and the subsequent actions taken: [read more](#).

A [safety bulletin](#) highlighting the importance of installing carbon monoxide (CO) alarms on boats with enclosed accommodation spaces was also published last year.

Published 15 April 2021