



An Roinn Iompair  
Department of Transport

## Marine Notice No. 67 of 2023

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,  
Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

### Reminder of Requirements Regarding the Correct Installation and Operation of Emergency Battery Systems

The Minister for Transport wishes to draw attention to a recent report published by the Marine Casualty Investigation Board (MCIB), concerning an investigation into an incident involving the FV BIKAIN in Dingle, Co. Kerry on 25 November 2022. The full report may be obtained from the MCIB's website ([www.mcib.ie](http://www.mcib.ie)) or at the following link [here](#).

The MCIB highlighted that the electrical system was incorrectly designed on this vessel, and this was the root cause of the casualty. The design of this system necessitated that the emergency batteries were required to be in use at all times for the operation of the vessel, but the emergency batteries should only be used for emergency situations when the main power supply fails. The vessel could not operate without recourse to the emergency source of electrical power.

The MCIB have made the following recommendations to owners:

- A list of critical systems should be carried onboard vessels with a maintenance and testing schedule included for each critical system or piece of equipment.
- Records of test and maintenance should be retained onboard.
- Sufficient spares should be carried onboard to enable repair of a vessel's critical systems in the event of failure.
- Any failure of critical systems should be reported immediately, and a thorough investigation carried out to identify the root cause.

**Note:** Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

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