

Deep Sea Vessel – Recovery Winch

Both Port & Starboard main bearings were re-greased according to manufacturers recommendations.

Occasionally, operators could hear an intermittent noise from the winch. Vibration specialists could only detect the background noises from the ships generator on the next deck below. But when this was turned off and the emergency standby generator was running instead the noise still prevented detection of anything from the winch bearings.

By pure coincidence an MHC user was talking to the shore side engineers who mentioned the winch problem and as a favour he went on board and took two measurements :

| | <i>Distress®</i> |
|----------------|------------------|
| Port Side | 04 |
| Starboard Side | 26 |



Problem instantly localised.

Closer inspection revealed **starboard lube** channel was **tapped into a blind hole**

Failure of this bearing at deep sea could cost ~£100,000/day out of commission