



**Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary -
Pacific**

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Operations Memorandum

To: All Unit Leaders, Supporting Societies

CC: Board of Directors

From: Ryan Woodward
Director of SAR/Operations

Date: March 10, 2005

Re: **Bow Mounted Remote Control Searchlights**

A number of Dedicated Response Vessels have been equipped with remote controlled searchlights on the forward tow posts over the last few years. Consequently, there have been a number of damage claims forwarded resulting from the failure of the internal gearing or the housings themselves of these lights. Lights of this nature made by reputable manufacturers such as ITT, ACR and Golight may be good products in their own right and may have become useful to the operations of your vessel(s), however they are not constructed or designed with our application or mounting in mind (most are constructed with plastic gearing & mounting only).

The CCGA-P and its insurers have strived to ensure that equipment damaged during the course of authorized activities has been replaced or repaired as suitable in a timely manner. The underlying assumption and requirement applied in all cases is that the equipment that failed was suited for its intended purpose. The remote controlled searchlights that have been failing do not meet this requirement.

This memorandum is intended to advise dedicated response vessel operators and owners that at this time, the CCGA-P Operations Portfolio has not found any remote control searchlights suitable for bow mounting on DRVs and as such, will no longer be accepting damage claims for lights mounted in this manner. Units and vessel owners may continue to mount lights in this position and may continue to use them, however, because failure from the forces put on the lights from the mounting position is assured at some point in time, we cannot continue to keep replacing them. If at some point in time a suitable light is located, all units will be advised. Units or societies that have come across a new or likely not previously considered product are encouraged to advise the Director (or Manager) of SAR/Operations.

If you have any questions please contact Ryan Woodward at 604-214-8206 at home, 604-961-8206 cell/pager or by email at ryan.woodward@ccga-p.ca