



EU WHOLE BODY VIBRATION LEGISLATION

Its application to the high speed boat industry

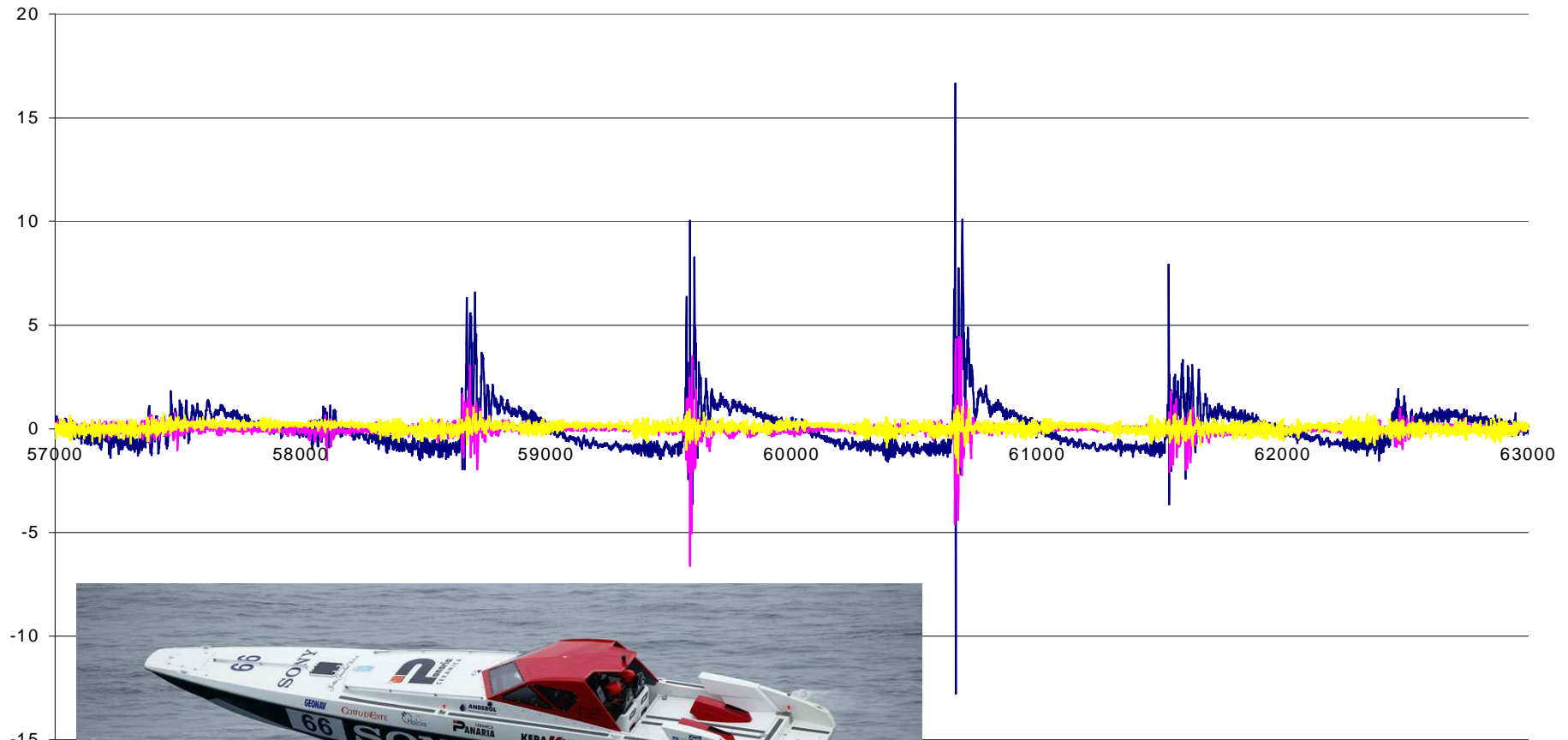
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THE PROBLEM

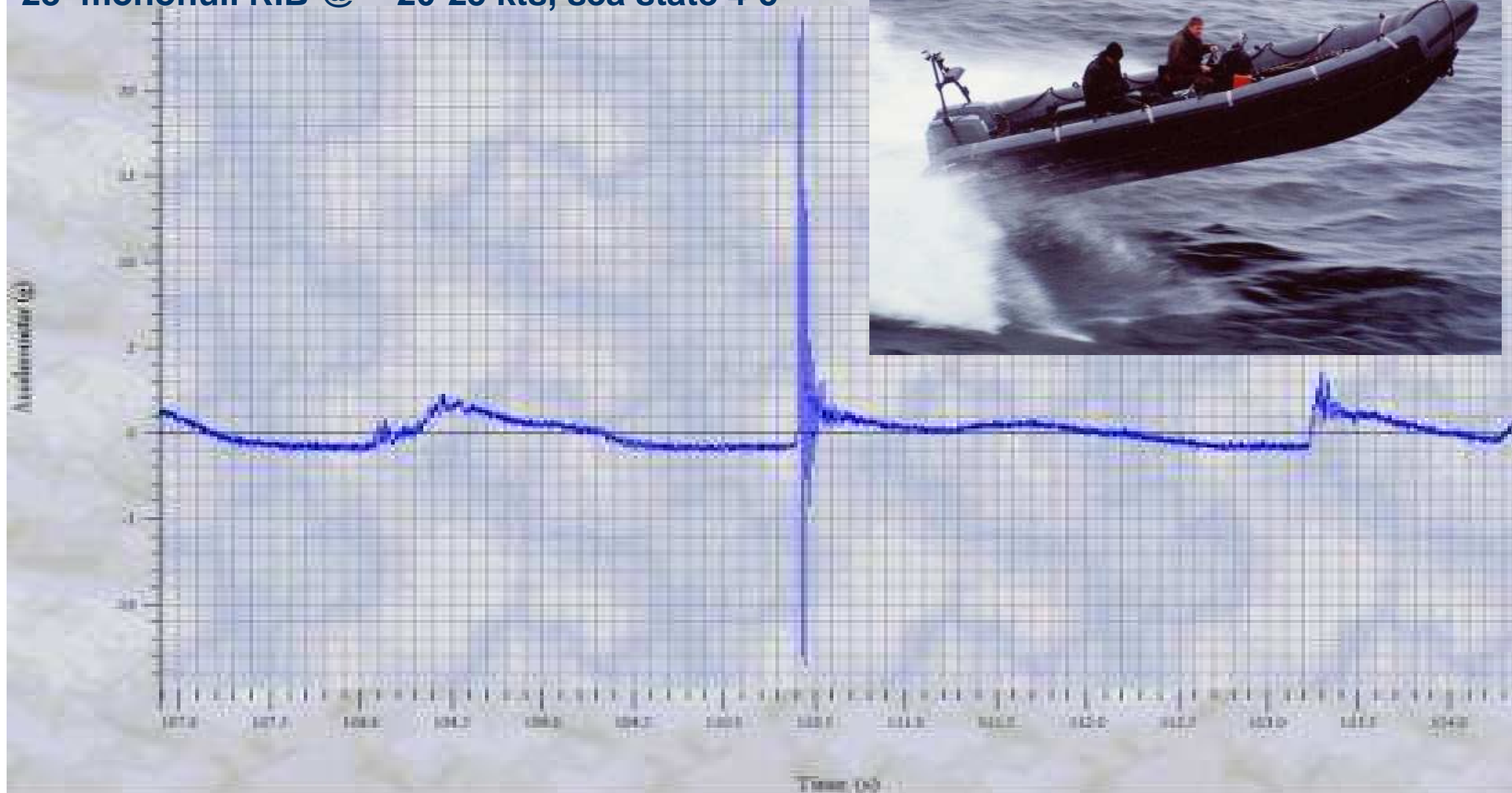
50' monohull @ ~ 50kts, sea state 0-1



THE PROBLEM

± 25

28' monohull RIB @ ~ 20-25 kts, sea state 4-5



LEGISLATIVE AIM:

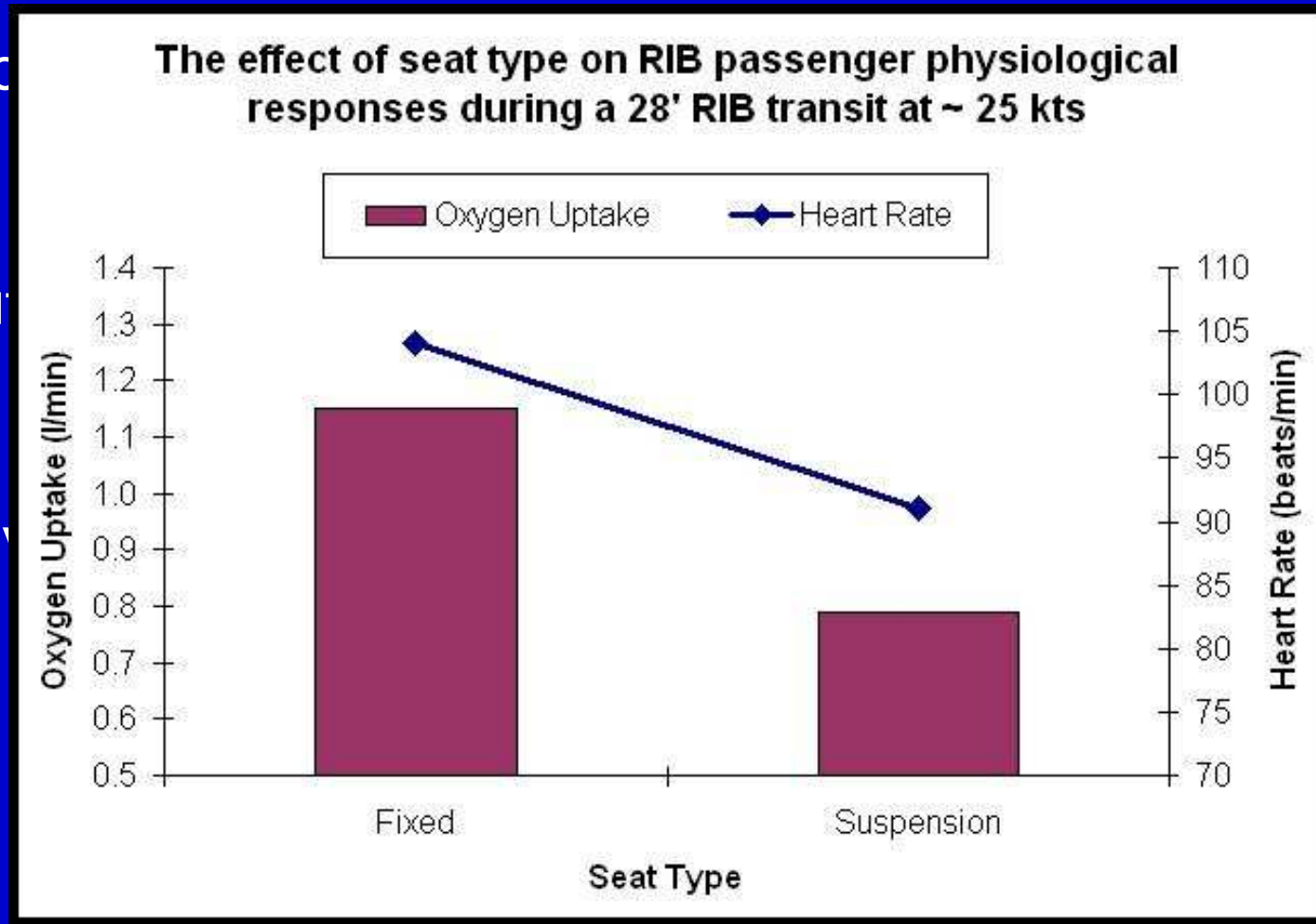
- Protect the human – reduce shock & vibration exposure
 - Injury
 - Fatigue – increases risk of injury
- Duty of care
 - Employees
 - Clients
- Advantage to employers
 - Reduce working-days-lost
 - Improved crew effectiveness
 - Improved operational readiness

NO ONE IS EXEMPT



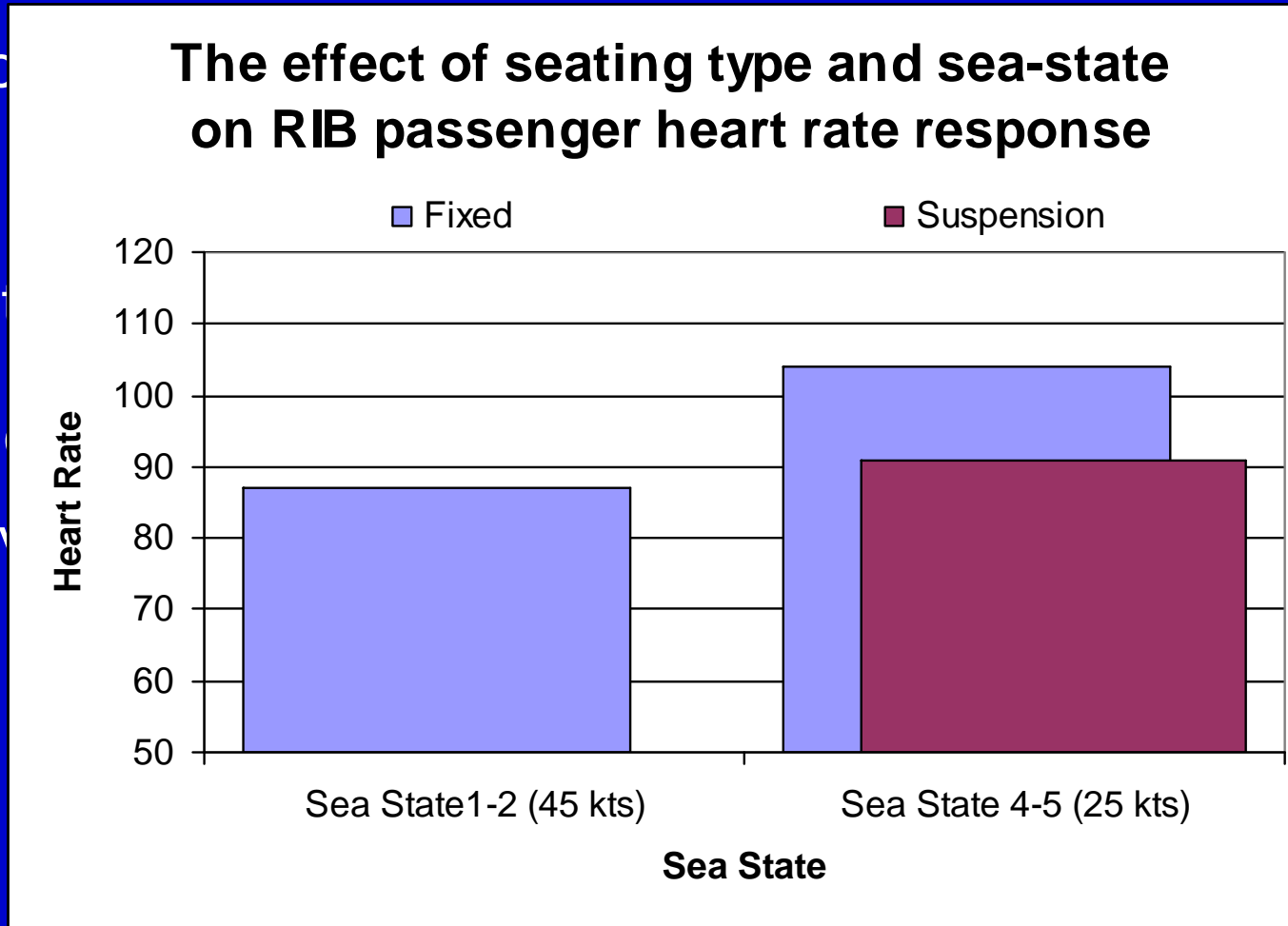
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THE LEGISLATION

- EU Physical Agents Directive
 - Vibration, noise, radiation
- MCA to enforce
 - Consultation process in place
- Whole Body Vibration (including impacts)
 - Action value
 - Exposure limit
- High Speed Craft **WILL** exceed the limit in poor sea conditions



THE EMPLOYERS TASKS (1)

- Risk Assessment
- Shock & vibration exposure assessment
 - Action & Limit values
- Mitigation Strategies
 - Operational; e.g.
 - Reduce speed
 - Reduced exposure time (i.e. additional crews)
 - Technical; e.g.
 - Hull design
 - Suspension seating
- Exposure re-assessment
- If required: application for exemption to exposure limit



THE EMPLOYERS TASKS (2)

- Employee education programme
 - Shore based
 - Background to legislation
 - Understand the risks
 - Risk/exposure reduction
 - At sea
 - enhanced coxswain training
 - Client/visitor
- Health surveillance
 - Monitoring
 - Fitness ?
- Documentation audit trail
- Risk assessment updates
 - e.g. new tasks, equipment, areas of operation



TIME SCALE

- Started already
- Full compliancy by 2010
- MCA has collated industry consultation feedback
 - Awaiting update
- Also consider
 - Hand & arm vibration
 - Noise
 - Wind
 - Engines
 - Communications systems



WHAT NOW

- Employers/Operators
 - Produce a ‘full compliance by 2010’ action plan
 - Initiate action plan
 - Update risk assessment and action plan annually
- Boat Builders
 - Assist in compliance
 - Provide information for risk/exposure assessment
 - Design for compliance
 - Consider the human (first - not last)

THIS IS ACHIEVEABLE

