



MECAL TECHNICAL NOTE

MTN 25-1

Issued by the *MECAL* Technical Committee

STORM JIB ARRANGEMENTS IN SAILING VESSELS WITH FURLING GENOA

Reference: Sailing Vessels Section 25

A sailing vessel is required to have efficient storm sails capable of taking the vessel to windward in heavy weather, in accordance with the reference.

A part furled Genoa is unlikely to provide adequate performance in heavy weather as the sail will become too “baggy”, and therefore usually a separate storm jib must be provided.

Owners & Examiners should satisfy themselves that the storm jib arrangement in a coded sailing vessel with a furling Genoa is efficient and can be rigged in the practical circumstances of deteriorating weather offshore.

A storm jib system consisting of a removable inner forestay with an adequate tensioning device, low stretch halyard and hanked on storm jib with dedicated sheets and sheeting blocks, usually will provide a satisfactory solution and is preferred.

Storm jibs that are set flying without a stay are unlikely to have a straight enough luff and will sag to leeward. Storm jibs intended to wrap around, or to be laced around, the furled Genoa are likely to be very difficult to rig and hoist on a pitching foredeck.

Storm sails should invariably be supplied with a separate, dedicated set of sheets.