AN INTRODUCTION TO LARS

FRC/RHIB Launch and Recovery System (LARS)

TBV MARINE SYSTEMS

Global Davit GmbH
Survival & Deck Equipment
The Launch and Recovery System (LARS)

The Fast Response Craft (FRC) and Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB) Launch and Recovery System (LARS) has been developed in a collaboration between TBV Marine systems, part of HSD Associates, and Global Davit GmbH.

With the development of this LARS, the companies aimed to react to the increasing demand for coast guarding, and the demand for being operational in heavier types of weather and higher sea states. This, in combination with a trend in the growth of the size of the fast boats has caused a demand for a safe and quick launch and recovery system; being the LARS.

The patented LARS makes use of a double outboard rolling frame which is mounted on the stern slipway of the mother vessel. It consists of a mainframe with a landing frame, of which the landing frame lowers into the water and buckles horizontally. The specially designed catch hook on the FRC/RHIB locks itself in this frame. At this point, the landing frame will straighten back in line with the mainframe, and immediately pulls back into the mainframe at the same time as the mainframe pulls back into the vessel's slipway. Both frames move simultaneously and are powered by one cylinder.
Advantages of implementing the LARS

Launch and recovery procedures executed by the LARS carry the following advantages:

- Launching and recovering procedures can safely be executed with bigger types of FRCs/RHIBs in sea states up to SS4;
- Catching and releasing procedures are executed without any dangerous situations for the crew;
- All procedures are completely controlled by sensors, the WMS, and by the system operator with two control panels at different points on deck;
- The system requires only a small amount of maintenance;
- When the correct heading is found by the mother vessel, waves will not influence the procedures;
- The LARS can easily be adjusted to different types of mother vessels and fast boats;
- The LARS only uses one main point of interface with the mother vessel;
- A release system and two control panels protect safety of all procedures.