CLAIMS

1. Method for inspecting an inside room of a ship and/or performing works therein, wherein the inside room is preferably a cargo tank, a sludge tank, a ballast tank or a cargo hold, comprising the following steps:

a) inserting, through an opening preferably provided in a ceiling portion of the inside room, accommodating means for accommodating at least one person;

b) attaching at least one rope at an upper part of the inside room, wherein the at least one rope is attached at the upper part of the inside room

   i. manually by one or a plurality of climbing persons using climbing equipment, and/or

   ii. by means of a drone, and/or

   iii. by means of a pivotable rod; and

c) moving the accommodating means up and down along the at least one rope for inspecting the inside room and/or performing works therein by at least one service person accommodated by the accommodating means.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein step b) includes

a step b1) of attaching at least one connecting means to the upper part of the inside room, and

a step b2) of connecting the at least one rope to the connecting means.

3. Method according to claim 2, wherein the at least one connecting means is attached at the upper part of the inside room

   i. manually by the one or the plurality of climbing persons using climbing equipment, and/or

   ii. by means of the drone, and/or

   iii. by means of the pivotable rod.

4. Method according to claim 2 or 3, wherein each rope is provided with an engaging mechanism, such as e.g. a hook, loop, eye, pin, at its end which is engaged with the connecting means for connecting the rope to the connecting means.

5. Method according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the connecting means is at least one of a clamp, a trolley and a sling.

6. Method according to claim 5, wherein the clamp comprises

a locking/unlocking mechanism which allows a remote controlled or automatically controlled locking of the clamp for attaching the clamp to the upper part of the inside room and which allows a remote controlled or automatically controlled unlocking of the clamp for releasing the clamp from the upper part of the inside room and/or

a remote controlled or automatically controlled rope securing mechanism for securing the at least one rope to the clamp.

7. Method according to claim 5, wherein, in case the connecting means is a trolley, the method includes the step of shifting the accommodating means connected to the trolley by shifting the trolley along a structural member to which it is attached to.

8. Method according to any one of claims 2 to 7, wherein the at least one connecting means is attached to a beam, a flange, projection, a web frame, a drain hole, a scallop, a cutout and/or a hole provided in the upper part of the inside room.

9. Method according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the accommodating means is provided at each longitudinal end thereof with at least one rope, preferably two ropes.

10. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the accommodating means is provided with at least one drive source, preferably two drive sources, for moving the accommodating means up and down along the ropes, wherein the drive source(s) is/are preferably electrically-operated, air-operated, manually operated or operated by an internal combustion engine.

11. Method according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein the accommodating means is a platform, a box, a chair or a safety harness.

12. Method according to claim 11, wherein the platform is configured such that it can be passed in its disassembled state trough an opening having a diameter of equal to or less than 1400 mm x 800 mm, and preferably through an opening having a diameter of equal to or less than 400 mm x 600 mm.

13. Method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the platform is, in step a), inserted in a disassembled state, and, after insertion, assembled in the inside room.

14. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the opening provided in the ceiling portion of the inside room is a manhole or an access opening.

15. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 14, wherein the opening provided in the ceiling portion of the inside room is positioned on a deck plating of the ship.