

**Notice No: MSN 6 (2019)****Date: 21.03.2019**

## Safe Mooring Arrangement while alongside Berth



This notice is to raise awareness among Masters, Vessel Operators and Ship Owners regarding the importance and requirement for safe mooring arrangement of vessels and barges while alongside. Recently there have been incidents of barge mooring lines parting and the barge being displaced laterally due to ripples / suction from passing vessels because of poor mooring arrangement. Such events may lead to personnel injury or vessel and infrastructure damage.

Master of vessels, especially Tug / Barge combinations alongside berths, and Berth Operators are to ensure following:

- All Mooring lines are in good condition and can withstand with pressure from Wind, Current, suction effect of interaction from passing vessels, etc;
- Mooring lines are well secured, equally loaded and tightened always. Load on mooring lines to be checked during tide / draft variations;
- Regular inspection / visual check of mooring lines to be carried out to avoid risk of breaking;
- Maintenance of mooring ropes to be carried out as per manufactures instruction;
- Replace ropes whenever necessary - wear and tear of ropes will have negative impact on the breaking strength.;
- Ships / Barges to be secured with adequate mooring lines. Place additional ropes if required;
- Identify Chafing points and either eliminated or minimise the friction.

In addition, it is also important that vessels minimum safe maneuvering speed while passing within the channel. On occasion this may require increased speed due to the nature of a vessel, weather conditions and current..

**Capt. Michael Magee**  
**Group Harbour Master RAK Ports**