

Marine Safety Notice

Notice No: MSN 4 (2017)

Date: 12.10.2017

Spillage, House-keeping and Safety of Port Tugs and Crew



NOTICE TO Ship-owners, Operators, Cargo Owners, Agents, Loading Supervisors, Vessel Masters and Pilots

Cargo spillage is frequently observed on the sidewalks and fenders of barges presenting potential hazardous working environment for the vessel/barge crew and the assisting tug and crew, particularly when the tugs are operating in close contact with the vessel/barge. In addition to a hazardous working environment, spilled cargo can enter the water, which reduces depths and poses an underwater obstruction.

Further, inadequate maintenance and poor housekeeping of ropes, broken fenders, loose chains create unsafe conditions for assisting tugs which can result in injury and damage. Again, fenders and broken chains entering the water can cause an underwater obstruction.

Crews working on the side of vessels with unprotected edges (no railings) must exercise caution, ensure sidewalks are clear with adequate illumination, and always wear a fully serviced lifejacket.

Owners / ship operators / agents are requested to bring this notice to the attention of ship Master's/Deck Officers/Loading Supervisors for circulating and posting on notice boards to encourage compliance and best practice.

Capt. Michael Magee
Harbour Master
RAK Ports