

**Sub: Requirement of Bridge Wing Shelters for the Protection of Pilots and Crew**

**To: RAK Ports Marine Agents  
Ship Owners, Masters and Operators**

The purpose the of this notification is to advise the Vessel Masters, Owners and Operators regarding the requirement of bridge wing shelters onboard vessels to provide protection to the Pilots and bridge team from the elements when working on the bridge wings in hot climatic conditions, without obstructing the visibility from the bridge wings.

The RAK Ports experiences high temperatures during summer (May – September), with mean maximum temperatures averaging around 39.2°C and high temperature of above 50°C.

Thus, with immediate effect, vessels calling RAK Ports must provide bridge wing shelters for the protection of Pilots and bridge team.

The bridge wing shelter should be made of suitable material to provide protection from direct sunlight and have the following minimum dimensions:

- Extend at least 1.52m inboard from the outer edge of the bridge wing.
- The Fore-and-Aft dimensions is to at least extend from the forward part of the bridge wing to the aft part of the bridge wing.
- Height of bridge wing shelter from deck level should be at least 2.45m. Vessels having raised deck, grating or platform at the edge of the bridge wing, the bridge wing shelter should be raised accordingly.

The bridge wing shelters can be portable or removable if required and should be strong enough to withstand winds that can be encountered. The design of the bridge wing shelter must allow unrestricted visibility from the bridge wing.

Vessels unable to comply with above requirement advised to notify the Harbour Master office prior vessel arrival.

Marine Agents are advised to notify the vessel Masters accordingly.

Below sample image of bridge wing shelter. Other innovative shelter designs which provide better protection and visibility, may be acceptable.



*Example: Picture of Bridge Wing Shelter*

**Captain Emadeldin Hashem**  
Deputy Harbour Master

*Status of previously published notices:*

2020: 01,02,04,05, 2021: 01, 02, 03, 04.

2022: 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06. 2023: 01, 03, 04.

2025: 01, 02, 03, 04, 05, 06