

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No 18 of 2016

(Update and Re-Issue of Notice to Mariners No 18 of 2014)

Escort Towing for VLCCs \geq 50,000 dwt

- 1 **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that VLCCs \geq 60,000 deadweight tonnes (dwt) which are **loaded or part-loaded and bound to or from** the Fawley Marine Terminal or Hamble Oil Terminal are required to be accompanied during their passage by an escort tug.
- 2 The escort tug will meet the inbound vessel south of Nab Tower and under normal conditions secure a tow wire to the stern of the tanker.
- 3 When secured to the tanker the escort tug will display, in addition to her normal steaming lights, the appropriate shapes and lights required by Rule 24(a) and Rule 27(b) of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972, as amended.
- 4 An escort tug will normally accompany departing loaded or part loaded vessels to the Nab. However, mariners should be aware that the escort tug with a tanker \geq 60,000 dwt in ballast departing the Terminals may, depending on circumstances, leave the vessel at Prince Consort Buoy and if arriving at the Terminals, may join the vessel between the South and West Ryde Middle.
- 5 Navigators of small vessels including recreational craft are to exercise extreme caution when passing round the stern of a large tanker and are not to pass between the tanker and its escorting tug.
- 6 This Local Notice to Mariners is issued in conjunction with QHM Portsmouth (QHM General Direction No 2/10 refers).

**Vessel Traffic Services Centre
Berth 37, Eastern Docks
Southampton**

**Captain M Phipps
Harbour Master**

01 January 2016

Owners, Agents, Charterers, Marinas, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.