

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No 27 of 2016 (Correction)

(Update and Re-Issue of Notice to Mariners No 28 of 2014)

Port of Southampton - Safety of Mooring Gangs and Tug Crews - Design and Use of Heaving Lines

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to Masters that crews of vessels using the Port of Southampton are required to use properly constructed heaving lines for all mooring and towing operations. The use of 'weighted' heaving lines is both illegal and dangerous and may cause serious injury or even death to those on the receiving end ashore or onboard a tug or mooring boat.

Ships' Agents are requested to bring this Notice to the attention of Masters of all vessels using the Port.

The Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seamen (2015), Chapter 26 (26.3.2) states:

Vessels' heaving lines should be constructed with a 'Monkeys Fist' at one end. To prevent personal injury the 'fist' should be made only with rope and should not contain added weighting material.

Additionally, vessels' mooring parties should always alert shore mooring gangs, tug crews or others in the vicinity prior to throwing a heaving line.

Masters of vessels and Agents are reminded that heaving lines with inappropriate weighting, such as pieces of metal, are not to be used under any circumstances and, if used, appropriate enforcement action will be taken as necessary.

**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.