

Associated British Ports
Ipswich

Local Notice to Mariners No 5 2005

Health and Safety During Ships Mooring Operations

Masters and Owners of vessels calling at the Port of Ipswich are reminded that their crews should be competent and at all times be fully aware of the operations being undertaken by the shore mooring gang.

Recent events at the Port have highlighted the problem of ship crews not concentrating on the activities of the shore mooring gang, with the result that on several occasions they have started to heave away on mooring lines before they have been made fast to a shore bollard.

Extra care must be taken with the larger heavier mooring lines and those using tension winches.

On no account should steel shackles be tied to the end of a heaving line and thrown as a replacement to a rope monkey fist.

Prior to reaching the berth the Master / Pilot may contact the mooring gang on VHF 68 to discuss the priority of the mooring operation.

Harbour Master

17th February 2005

Associated British Ports
Ipswich

Local Notice to Mariners No 11

Dangers of Unattended Moorings

Owners and Mariners are advised that mooring lines on vessels berthed in the Port of Ipswich should be attended on a regular basis.

Each Year there are over 4,000 commercial vessel movements, operating throughout the tidal range. Over low water periods the interaction between vessels berthed and those passing is at its greatest. While it is the duty of ALL VESSEL TO PROCEED AT A SAFE SPEED, incidents are still occurring in the harbour where the mooring lines of vessels have been allowed to become slack by the ships crew, causing the vessels to surge along the quay breaking ropes.

While often the blame is initially focused on the speed of a passing vessel, investigation often shows that it is the lack of care with the tendering of mooring lines on the berthed vessel which is a major cause to the problem.

All vessels navigating within the Port of Ipswich do so at the sole risk of the Master and Owners thereof, who shall be responsible for the safety and security of their vessel and for any damage done to the property of the Port Authority and other persons.

Harbour Master

26th November 2004