



LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS

DEAD TOWS, UNUSUAL OBJECTS AND NON-ROUTINE TOWAGE EVENTS

Mariners and Port-Users are advised that a new section of the Port Marine Safety Code, Guide to Good Practice 2013 requires Harbour Authorities to give special consideration to tows involving dead-ships or unusual objects and towage events of a non-routine nature.

From 1st October 2013, ABP Lowestoft will be introducing new local procedures for Non-Routine Towage of vessels, barges and unusual objects.

Shipowners, towage contractors, tug masters, project managers and agents are further advised that the person responsible for the safety and planning of the manoeuvre (and thereby acting as the Towing Master) must be clearly identified and be responsible for the production of risk assessments, method statements and passage plans which must be discussed and agreed in advance with the Harbour Authority.

A "Non-Routine Towage Assessment" form, copy attached separately must be submitted to the Harbour Authority in advance. When the details of the venture have been fully discussed and agreed the written approval of the Harbour Authority will be given on this form.

Please contact Lowestoft Port Control, (VHF Ch.14, Tel. 01502 572286), if further information is required.

Harbour Master

25th. September 2013

Notices to Mariners Currently in Force; 2006 No.5 2007 No.13 2008 No.28, No.39 2009 No.19
2010 No. 10, 2011 No.4, No.7, No.10, No.19 2012 No.3, No.4, No.15A, No. 17, No. 22

2013 No.1, No.4, No.7, No.8, No.11, No.17, No.18

(See Also http://www.abports.co.uk/Marine/Short_Sea_Ports/Lowestoft/Notices_to_Mariners/)

ABP Lowestoft Non - Routine Towage Assessment

Introduction

Following, MAIB recommendations after the Chiefton crew fatality incident and guidance in the PMSC Guide to Good Practice 2103. ABP as a group have decided to implement a Non - Routine Towage procedure, at all their ports.

ABP Lowestoft's Marine Department undertook a risk assessment exercise to define what should be regarded as a Non-Routine Towage event.

ABP Lowestoft has created a Non-routine Towage assessment procedure and associated forms which are included below.

Non-Routine Towage

ABP Lowestoft Marine department regularly deals with a wide variety of towage tasks and it was necessary to define what should be regarded as Non-Routine events.

For the purposes of this assessment procedure the following Towage events have been deemed to be Non-Routine and must comply with the assessment process and control measures.

1. **Dead-Ship Towage** – Any vessel over 50 metres LOA which is lacking propulsion and/or steering systems, whether manned or unmanned.
2. **Outer Harbour Barges** – Any Barge for any Outer Harbour Berths, which has an LOA over 70 metres and/or a beam over 20 metres.
3. **Inner Harbour Barges** – Any Barge for Inner Harbour Berths over 50 metres LOA and/or a beam over 16 metres.
4. **Other Floating Objects** – Pipelines, Offshore Structures, Salvaged Debris or any other such tows considered to be Non-Routine by the Duty Pilot, because of their unusual nature.

All towage requests for any of the categories above must be sent on Part 1 of the form below. This must include the information designating a Towing Master with overall responsibility for the safety of the Towed Vessel or Object.

ABP Lowestoft Non - Routine Towage Assessment

**Part 1 – Non- Routine Towage Request - To Be Completed By Agent –
Return To Lowpilots@abports.co.uk & Lowestoftportcontrol@abport.co.uk**

Date of Intended Passage Organisation Making Request

Agency Contact Number(s)

Type Of Towage Operation (tick)

Dead Ship Barge Ballast Barge Loaded Unusual Object

Towage From To

Details Of The Towed Vessel/Barge

Name LOAm Beamm Draftm

Brief Description of Tow.....

.....

Is the tow manned? Yes No

Are safe boarding arrangements available on each vessel requiring a pilot Yes No

Tow Mooring arrangements

Does the Tow have suitable and sufficient mooring lines? Yes No

What functioning propulsion/steerage does the tow have?

Propeller(s) Thruster(s) Rudder(s) None

Sea Tug Details

Name(s)..... LOAm Draftm

Power/Bollard Pull KW/t

Number of Assisting Tugs Required

Nominated Tug1 Suitable? Yes No

Nominated Tug1 Crew Certificated Yes No

Nominated Tug2 Suitable? Yes No

Nominated Tug2 Crew Certificated Yes No

Nominated Tug3 Suitable? Yes No

Nominated Tug3 Crew Certificated Yes No

Nominated Tug4 Suitable? Yes No

Nominated Tug4 Crew Certificated Yes No

Towing Arrangement

.....

.....

Nominated Person With Overall Responsibility For The Safety Of The Manoeuvre (Towing Master)

Name Position

.....

Organisation/Vessel

.....

Contact Telephone No(s)

ABP Lowestoft Non - Routine Towage Assessment

Part 2 - Hazard Identification - To Be Completed By Statutory Harbour Authority

PROJECT TITLE

Agent's Request Form Received Yes No

Towage Direction Inwards Outwards

Towage From Inner Harbour Outer Harbour Sea

Towage Destination Inner Harbour Outer Harbour Sea

Bridge Transit required? Yes No

Overhanging structures? Yes No

Structures Outside Body of Towed Vessel? Yes No

Towage Arrangements Wire/Chain Bridle Ropes Composite Unit

Towing Position Astern Alongside Ahead

Pilotage Compulsory? Yes No

Number of Pilot's Recommended

Sea Tug suitable for Harbour Work? Yes No

Number of Assisting Tugs Required

Safety Boat Required? Yes No

Number of Crew/Riggers Required

Crew/Riggers Available? Yes No

Towing Master Required? Yes No

Towing Master Available? Yes No

Passage Plan Agreed with Towing Master Yes No

Towing configuration and duty allocation of tugs agreed Yes No

Comms. Channel Agreed with All Parties Yes No

TBT Meeting Held with Tug Skippers, Riggers and Towing Master?
Yes No

Signature

Date

ABP Lowestoft Non - Routine Towage Assessment

Part 3 – Approval - To Be Completed By Statutory Harbour Authority

Number of Pilots Required (Manned tows require a pilot)

Boarding At Disembarking at
.....

Have safe pilot boarding arrangements been verified Yes No

If 'No' give details
.....
.....

Is additional harbour towage required? Yes No If yes give details
.....
.....

If necessary where will harbour towage be required? From To
.....

ABP Lowestoft Review

Passage plan daylight limitations
.....

Passage plan tidal limitations
.....

Passage plan weather limitations
.....

Passage Plans Agreed Yes No

Towage Contractor's Risk Assessment/Method Statement Agreed/Sighted

Reviewed By Position
.....

Outcome

Approved Additional Action Required

Actions Required
.....

Signature

Date.....