

Date: 01 May 2023

Subject: Verification of Pilot Boarding Arrangements

Compliance with these requirements is mandatory for all vessels calling at the Port of Fremantle.

This Shipping Agents Memo replaces SAM 04-2023 which is now deleted.

This memo is to be read along with the Best Practice and Marine Safety Criteria Bulletin 02-2022.

Following the serious incident experienced by Fremantle Ports in 2022, a series of enhanced safety initiatives are being implemented. This Shipping Agents Memo is a part of this improvement and monitoring process.

Effective immediately, the following information exchange is required for all vessels.

Not more than 2 hours prior to any pilot boarding time - arrival / shifting / departure vessel
Masters are to confirm the following to Fremantle VTS via VHF Ch 12:

- The condition of all pilot boarding arrangements - pilot ladders / manropes / boarding areas / trapdoor arrangements / combination ladder arrangements etc are in compliance with IMO requirements.
- Irrespective of the Company Safety Management System requirements, all above components of the pilot boarding arrangement, have been physically verified and confirmed by a responsible officer as safe for marine pilot transfer operations. This additional check must be completed prior to each pilot boarding schedule at the Port of Fremantle.
- The deployment of the pilot boarding arrangements is in accordance with requirements and verified by a responsible officer as being done safely.
- Any substandard / non-compliant pilot boarding arrangement will result in cancellation of the vessel's schedule until the non-compliance is rectified. All cancellation charges shall be to the vessel's account in this case.
- Confirmation that photos of the pilot boarding arrangements have been submitted for review to the Harbour Masters office.

Any queries regarding the above process must be submitted to the email address:

harbourmaster@fremantleports.com.au



Captain Suraj Joshi
Harbour Master (Acting)