

# HARBOUR MASTER'S INSTRUCTION

## 12-2024

**DATE: 19 December 2024**

**SUBJECT: Testing of ship's engines while alongside a berth**

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This Harbour Master's Instruction applies to all vessels calling at the Port of Fremantle and expected to be alongside a berth during their stay.

The Port Authorities Regulations 2001 Part 2 Division 2 Regulation 9 states the following;

***"Propellers of moored vessel not to be operated***

***Unless authorised by the harbour master, the master of a vessel that has a propeller must not cause or permit the propeller to be operated while the vessel is moored to a wharf in a port.***

***Penalty: \$5 000."***

It has been noted that some vessels have been testing their engines while alongside at a berth without the approval of the Harbour Master's office / VTS and in the absence of a marine pilot and attending tugs.

The activity of trying out engines without the appropriate controls in place - attending marine pilot and tugs, carries undue risk that may result in breakaway from berth causing damage to the vessel, other vessels along the same quay line and port infrastructure.

Vessel masters are notified that any testing of the vessel's engines is to be carried out only when a marine pilot is in attendance and with tugs made fast.

As detailed in the regulations, non-compliance with the above requirement will result in a penalty of \$5000 to the vessel's account.

Any queries regarding the above process must be submitted to the email address:  
[harbourmaster@fremantleports.com.au](mailto:harbourmaster@fremantleports.com.au)



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**Capt. Savio Fernandes**

Harbour Master