



Associated British Ports - Lowestoft

**No 5
2017**

NOTICE TO MARINERS

USE OF WEIGHTED HEAVING LINES

Mariners and Port-Users are advised that there continues to be regular reports of incidents within the wider Ports Industry involving inappropriately weighted heaving lines being thrown during mooring operations.

Some of the weights that have been identified would cause very serious injury or even death should they strike an individual – even one wearing appropriate PPE.

Whilst the attached notices have previously been promulgated, it is hoped that highlighting the contents will further educate Vessel crews into the dangers of using such weights, and may reduce the possibility of incidents occurring. Any such instance of heavily weighted heaving lines used in the Port of Lowestoft will be reported to the local MCA Office to allow enforcement action to be taken against persistent or serious offenders as deemed appropriate.

Agents, Owners and Vessel masters are advised to bear these guidelines in mind when conducting mooring operations in the Port of Lowestoft.

Please contact Lowestoft Port Control, VHF Ch14, or Tel. 01502 572286, if further information is required.

Harbour Master

7th February 2017.

Notices to Mariners Currently in Force; 2006 No.5 2007 No.13 2008 No.39 2009 No.19 2010 No. 10, 2011 No.7, No.10, No.19 2012 No.3, 2013 No.17, No.19 2014 No.22 2015 No.10, No.20, No.24 2016 No.12, No.18, 2017 No.1, No.2, No.4, No.5

SAFETY BULLETIN

No. 2

DANGEROUSLY WEIGHTED SHIPS HEAVING LINES

There have been several instances where dangerously weighted heaving lines, including the use of monkey's fists with additional weights inserted into them, have been used resulting in serious injury. Further guidance is contained in Ch 26 section 26.3.5 in the 2015 edition of the Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers.



Vessels using dangerously weighted heaving lines in the UK may be subject to prosecution

MSF 5029 Rev 16/1

To arrange a subscription to future Safety Bulletins go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/attachments/maritime-and-coastguard-agency-mca-safety-bulletins> For further information please contact Ship Safety Branch, Maritime & Coastguard Agency Tel: +44 (0) 2350 129 100
Issued: 28 September 2015

SAFETY ALERT



Accidents caused by Heaving Lines

In the last year several accidents have occurred involving the injured party being hit by the heaving line during mooring operations.

Remember the ship's master, pilot and crew will require a line ashore as soon as possible. As the ship approaches the quay a heaving line will be thrown ashore.

- It may not be possible to see them throw it.
- It may be heavily weighted.
- The crew may not shout a warning or you may not hear it.



Wear your PPE.

Report any dangerous heaving lines.

Please always stay alert and watch for heaving lines coming your way!

Also see Toolbox Talk: [ABP-HS-TT003 – Mooring & Unmooring Vessels](#)

