

PEEL PORTS LONDON MEDWAY

Sheerness Docks, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1RS
Main Telephone: +44 (0)1795 596596 Fax: (0)1795 660072



NOTICE TO AGENTS, BERTH AND SHIP OPERATORS

NASBO No: 11 of 2019

Date of issue: 13th August 2015

Date of re issue: 24th July 2019

Use Of Inappropriate Or Weighted Heaving Lines

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the use of inappropriate or weighted heaving lines by Ships for all mooring and towing operations is strictly prohibited.

This activity places those persons on the deck of a tug, mooring boat or berth at an increased and unacceptable level of risk, which could result in serious injury or death, furthermore navigational implications could also be encountered if a Tug fails to make fast.

The UK Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seamen Chapter 25 (25.3.2) states **To prevent personal injury to those receiving heaving lines, the 'monkey's fist' should be made with rope only and must not contain added weighting material. Safe alternatives include a small high-visibility soft pouch, filled with fast-draining pea shingle or similar, with a weight of not more than 0.5 kg. Under no circumstances is a line to be weighted by items such as shackles, bolts or nuts, or twist locks.**

MGN 592 (M+F) Sec. 4.9 Use of weighted heaving lines also refers

Those persons who encounter weighted heaving lines have instructions to remove the hazard or replace with a sand bag.

All cases of inappropriate or weighted use of heaving lines will be investigated by Peel Ports Medway. Vessels may be subject to an inspection at a rate published in the Port of Sheerness Ltd Terms and Conditions of Trading and Schedule of Charges. In addition reports will be submitted to the MCA and MAIB.

**Marine Operations Department
Peel Ports London Medway**

24th July 2019

