

## PEEL PORTS LONDON MEDWAY

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



# NOTICE TO AGENTS, BERTH AND SHIP OPERATORS

## NASBO No: 3 of 2021

Date of issue: 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015  
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## 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: **“Vessels heaving lines should be constructed with a ‘Monkeys Fist’ at one end. To prevent personal injury the ‘Fist’ should be made only with rope and should NOT contain added weighting material”**.

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 London Medway. Vessels may be subject to an inspection at a rate published in the Port of Sheerness Ltd Schedule of Charges. In addition, reports will be submitted to the MCA and MAIB.

**Marine Operations Department  
Peel Ports London Medway**

**5<sup>th</sup> January 2021**