

## NOTICE TO MARINERS

**№12 – 2024**

### **PORT OF LIVERPOOL**

#### **ILLEGAL DISPOSAL OF A SMOKE SIGNAL**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Mariners' attention is drawn to a recent incident caused by the illegal disposal of a SOLAS-approved smoke signal.

The smoke signal was put into a garbage bin provided on a quayside for general domestic garbage from vessels. Following collection of the bin and emptying at the waste disposal site, the smoke signal activated. This prompted an emergency response at the waste disposal site.



Smoke signals and flares are classed as containing explosives and, for disposal purposes, must be treated as hazardous waste. The material safety datasheet for the smoke signal involved in the incident states:

**SECTION 13 DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**13.1. Waste treatment methods**

<p><b>Product / Packaging disposal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Explosives must not be thrown away, buried, discarded or placed with garbage.</li> <li>■ Explosives which are surplus, deteriorated or considered unsafe for transport, storage or use shall be destroyed and the statutory authorities shall be notified.</li> <li>■ This material may be disposed of by burning or detonation but the operation may only be performed under the control of a person trained in the safe destruction of explosives.</li> </ul> <p>Refer to local Waste Disposal Authority and supplier for suitable disposal procedure.</p>
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Hazardous garbage **MUST NOT** be put into the general garbage bins that are provided on the quaysides. Under the Waste Regulations 2011 (as amended), it is illegal to mix hazardous garbage with general garbage.

Masters of vessels with hazardous garbage to be landed ashore must make appropriate arrangements with specialist contractors for the collection and disposal of that garbage.

Further information regarding ships' garbage reception facilities at the Port of Liverpool can be found in [Notice to Mariners №120/2023](#), which includes details of the types of garbage that are acceptable and not acceptable for disposal in the quayside bins.

