



## Marine Notice No 33 of 2019

Amended: 23/09/2019

Notice to all ship owners, fishing vessel owners, port authorities, agents, masters, pilots and seafarers

### Pilot Transfer Arrangements

**This Marine Notice supersedes Marine Notice No. 11 of 1995.**

This Marine Notice aims to remind ship owners, fishing vessel owners, port authorities, agents, masters, pilots and seafarers, that pilot transfer arrangements, which include pilot ladders, must be certified, maintained and rigged in accordance with Chapter V Regulation 23, of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS).

Ships engaged on voyages in the course of which pilots are likely to be employed, shall be provided with pilot transfer arrangements in accordance with SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 23. Please refer to Appendix I for details (Source: IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1428).

Ship owners, fishing vessel owners, masters, and seafarers should ensure that:

1. Pilot ladders shall be used solely for the embarkation and disembarkation of pilots (SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 23.2.1).
2. All appliances used for pilot transfer shall be kept clean, properly maintained and stowed and shall be regularly inspected to ensure they are safe to use (SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 23.2.1).
3. The rigging of pilot transfer arrangements and the embarkation of a pilot shall be supervised by a responsible officer having means of communication with the navigation bridge and who shall also arrange for the escort of the pilot by a safe route to and from the navigation bridge. Personnel engaged in the rigging and operating of any mechanical equipment shall be instructed in the safe procedures to be adopted (SOLAS Chapter V, Reg 23.2.2).
4. Pilot ladders shall be certified in accordance with SOLAS, Chapter V, Reg 23.2.3 or in accordance with *S.I. No. 177/2017 - European Union (Marine Equipment) Regulations 2017*<sup>1</sup>, if applicable.
5. All pilot ladders used for the transfer shall be clearly identified with tags or other permanent markings so as to enable identification of each appliance for the purpose of survey, inspection and record keeping. A record shall be kept on board the ship as to the date the identified ladder is placed into service and any repairs effected (SOLAS, Chapter V, Reg 23.2.4).

<sup>1</sup> As amended by *S.I. No. 312/2018 - European Union (Marine Equipment) (Amendment) Regulations 2018*.

6. An accommodation ladder in conjunction with the pilot ladder (a combination arrangement) shall be used whenever the distance from the surface of the water to the point of access to the ship is more than 9m (SOLAS, Chapter V, Reg 23.3.3.2).
7. Mechanical pilot hoists shall not be used (SOLAS Chapter V, Reg 23.6).
8. No pilot ladder should have more than two replacement steps which are secured in position by a method different from that used in the original construction of the ladder, and any steps so secured should be replaced as soon as reasonably practicable by steps secured in position by the method used in the original construction of the pilot ladder. When any replacement step is secured to the side ropes of the pilot ladder by means of grooves in the sides of the step, such grooves should be in the longer sides of the step (IMO Assembly Resolution 27/Res.1045, paragraph 2.1.3).

Any defects, including those observed by pilots, should be reported to the Marine Survey Office:

Marine Survey Office  
Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport  
Leeson Lane  
Dublin 2  
Ireland  
Tel: 00 353 (0)1 678 3400  
Email: [mso@dtas.gov.ie](mailto:mso@dtas.gov.ie)

Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,  
Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport,  
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

30/08/2019

Amended: 23/09/2019

Encl: Annex

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:  
The Marine Survey Office, tel: +353-(0)1-678 3400.  
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, tel: +353-(0)1-678 3418.  
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:  
Dept. of Transport, Tourism and Sport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.  
email: [MarineNotices@dtas.gov.ie](mailto:MarineNotices@dtas.gov.ie) or visit us at: [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie)

Appendix 1: Required boarding arrangements for pilot

# REQUIRED BOARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PILOT

In accordance with SOLAS Regulation V/23 & IMO Resolution A.1045(27)  
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PILOTS' ASSOCIATION

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This document and all IMO Pilot-related documents are available for download at: <http://www.impahq.org>



