

**SHANNON FOYNES PORT COMPANY**

**NOTICE TO MARINERS**

**NOTICE NO. 4 OF 2022**

**SHANNON ESTUARY**

**To All Ship Owners, Operators, Masters and Agents**

Attention is drawn to ships Masters to ensure that arrangements for the boarding and disembarkation of pilots meet the required standards.

A Pilot may refuse to use an improperly rigged pilot boarding arrangement until such time as it is made safe to do so. This will incur delay to vessels as a result.

Attached for guidance is the International Maritime Pilots Association (IMPA) pilot ladder and equipment rigging diagram.

BY ORDER,

Hugh Conlon  
Harbour Master  
Shannon Foynes Port Company  
1<sup>st</sup> January 2022

# REQUIRED BOARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PILOT

In accordance with I.M.O. requirements and I.M.P.A. recommendations

### RIGGING FOR FREEBOARDS OF 9 METRES OR LESS

**HANDHOLD STANCHIONS**  
Min. diam. 72mm  
125cm above bulwark  
min. 75cm  
max. 85cm, open

**MAN-ROPES**  
without knots  
min. diam. 28mm  
**IF REQUIRED BY PILOT**

Always flat side of ship

**SIDES ROPES**  
Min. diam. 18mm

**STEPS**  
Must rest against ship's side

Min. 40cm  
Min. 30cm

SPREADER  
Min. 180cm long

Max. 8 steps between spreaders

5th step must be a spreader

Height required by pilot

### SHIPS WITH HIGH FREEBOARD (MORE THAN 9M)

When no side door available

**PILOT LADDER**  
Must extend at least 2 metres above lower platform

Officer in contact with bridge

**ACCOMMODATION LADDER**  
Should rest firmly against ship's side  
Should lead aft  
Maximum 55° slope  
Lower platform horizontal  
Rigid handrails perforated

**A PILOT LADDER COMBINED WITH AN ACCOMMODATION LADDER** is usually the safer method of embarking or disembarking a pilot on ships with a freeboard of more than 9 metres

3 to 7 metres depending on height of pilot launch and height of deck

Recommended 9 metre mark  
Stern → Bow

2m

0.5m

2m

PILOT

### MECHANICAL PILOT HOIST

Davit

Guard ring

Flexible part

Right part

Top main-ropes ready for immediate use  
Min. diam. 28mm

A pilot hoist made and rigged in accordance with SOLAS Chapter V, together with a pilot ladder rigged alongside for immediate transfer, may be used subject to agreement between the Master and the Pilot. It should be noted that the distance between the nearest side ropes of the pilot hoist and pilot ladder will be at least 1.4 metres.

### NO!

**NO!**  
No shackles  
No knots  
No splices

**NO!**  
This steps must be equally spaced

**NO!**  
This steps must be horizontal

**NO!**  
Spreaders must not be lashed between steps

**NO!**  
The side ropes must be equally spaced

**NO!**  
The loops are a rigging hazard for the pilot and can become foul of the pilot launch

### NO!

Very dangerous ladder too long

PILOT

Two handhold stanchions rigidly secured to ship's structure

Responsible officer

NO OBSTRUCTIONS

Bulwark ladder secured to ship

Lifebuy with self-igniting light

### AT NIGHT

Pilot ladder and ship's deck lit by forward shining overboard light

PILOT