

# **SHANNON FOYNES PORT COMPANY**

## **NOTICE TO MARINERS**

### **NOTICE NO. 2 OF 2023**

#### **SHANNON ESTUARY**

#### **REQUIRED PILOT BOARDING ARRANGEMENTS**

FAO: All Ship Owners, Operators, Master and Agents.

All vessels arriving to/sailing from the Shannon Estuary are reminded of the necessity of providing safe Pilot boarding arrangements in conformance with the required International standards, namely SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 23 and IMO Resolution A.1045(27).

It is the Master's responsibility to ensure that pilot transfer arrangements are correctly rigged and manned.

A Pilot may refuse to use an improperly rigged pilot boarding arrangement until such time as it is made safe to do so. This may result in delays to planned times of arrival and departure, and may also result in the cancellation of planned arrivals/sailings.

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

Hugh Conlon  
Harbour Master  
Shannon Foynes Port Company

9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

# 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 ship

Recommended 9 metre mark

Stern → Bow

### 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**