



## SAFETY ALERT: MOORING

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Barges cannot always moor under the most ideal circumstances. Often quays and mooring posts are badly accessible by e.g. fenders, differences in heights, and bollards that are positioned too far from the vessel. Frequently incidents happen during these operations, like persons who are in the impact zone/ bad storing of ropes / bad state of the ropes or lines. This Safety Alert is meant to make you aware of the dangers associated with mooring.



### TIDY WORK AREA



### BREAKING HAZARD



### TRIPPING AND GETTING STUCK



### POSSIBLE DANGERS

- Tripping, slipping and falling
- Drowning
- Getting stuck
- Getting hit by breaking loose materials (wires, ropes, winches, etc.)

### MEASURES

- Frequently check the quality of your mooring equipment.
- Prepare the mooring activity well. Discuss the dangers and make sure to have a clear division of tasks.
- Make sure the approaching angle is not bigger than 15 degrees and the approaching speed has a maximum of 3.6 km/hr.
- Make sure there is good communications with the navigator (use clear terminology and gestures).
- Wear personal protective equipment during mooring activities: lifejacket, safety shoes and gloves.
- Store mooring ropes in an appropriate place where they cannot be damaged and from which they can be easily released.
- Keep work area tidy and check in advance of the activities if the area is free from unwanted materials.
- Don't be rushed, take your time for the activities.
- Use a throwing line in case of long ropes.
- With height differences bigger than 1 meter, only execute activities when there is someone at the mooring location to take the rope.

- In case the distance between mooring location and barge is larger than 0.5 meter, stay behind the railing.
- Do not stand on the bollard, they are not meant for this!
- When stopping the vessel on the bollard, keep sufficient distance to the bollard to prevent getting stuck.
- Do not stand in the loop of the rope because of the hazard of getting stuck.
- Use ladders or gangways to get safely from or onboard. Use rowers when necessary.
- Do not walk on mooring posts or fender structures when there is no railing. Keep in mind that these places can be slippery.
- An important danger when working with wires and ropes, is the chance of breakage or sudden loosening. For example, in case the line is around the bollard or fairlead. Stay out of the danger zone.
- Take into account that passing ships can cause suction.
- Keep in mind the weather conditions and current (tide) on the rivers.
- When moving wires or ropes in locks, be sure not to get between the mooring materials.
- When using fairleads, align the force of the barge away, when applicable. (Also see Safety Alert SA16-005 at [www.platformzeroincidents.nl](http://www.platformzeroincidents.nl))
- When using the mooring winch, disable the clutch of the winch as soon as the barge is moored.
- Drop your materials when you are outside the railing and are bound to lose your balance. For example when moving the fender.

**Disclaimer:** The information in this document was drawn up with the highest possible accuracy. However, the Platform Zero Incidents and its participants cannot be held liable in any way for its content. Adopting measures, suggestions, warnings, etc. must therefore always be preceded by weighing up and risk assessment.

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