## SAFETYCAMPAIGN



2018

## CONTENTS

2 Beliefs

3 Foreword

4 Participants

5 Vessel Type

6 Compliance by
Means of Transfer

7-9 Non-Compliance by Type of Defect

10 Required Boarding Arrangements for Pilot

11 IMPA Officers and Secretariat

IMPA represents the international community of pilots. We use the resources of our membership to promote effective safety outcomes in pilotage as an essential public service.

## BELIEFS

The public interest is best served by a fully regulated and cohesive pilotage service free of commercial pressure.

2 There is no substitute for the presence of a qualified pilot on the bridge.

3 IMO is the prime authority in matters concerning safety of international shipping.

4 All states should adopt a responsible approach based on proven safety strategies in establishing their own regulations, standards and procedures with respect to pilotage.

5 Existing and emerging information technologies are capable of enhancing on-board decision making by the maritime pilot.

Right and below: Compounding the danger to
Pilots of non-SOLAS compliant Boarding
Arrangements, is the efforts of some
Administrations to force Pilots to use Elderly or


Unsuitable vessels (like Tugs) to executive transfers.


## PILOT LADDER SAFETY SURVEY 2018

## FOREWORD

Results this year suggest that there is a small improvement in the level of compliance, yet still one in eight pilot transfer arrangements fail to comply.

It is most welcoming that since last year many maritime stakeholders have referred to the IMPA pilot ladder safety report. Yet still so many stakeholders act as if SOLAS $\mathrm{V} / 23$ is optional or aspirational, rather than an internationally accepted standard. All maritime stakeholders need to stand up and take what action they can to improve pilot transfer safety.

Class Societies should ensure that when signing off boarding arrangements for vessels, that their primary consideration is safety rather than commercial expedience. Indeed, some societies have realised of late that their own surveyors use Pilot Ladders and suffer like Pilots from inadequate arrangements. Port and flag state inspectors should ensure their inspectors are familiar with SOLAS V/23 requirements and prepared to enforce their requirements. Shipowners' superintendents should ensure that the equipment purchased actually meets requirements rather
than simply rely on often fake certificates. Sadly, it is amongst some of the most respected of ship operators that we have found the most obvious non-compliant arrangements.

It should not be assumed however that all accidents are a result of non-compliance with SOLASV/23. This is not the case, there are many other contributory factors. This last year there have been deaths in Portugal and Finland due to pilot boat issues which are not covered by SOLAS regulations. It is a sad fact that many major maritime administrations pay scant regard to the suitability of the craft that they employ to provide pilot transfer services. Once again cost rather than safety is the driver of some administrations providing unsuitable craft. Adoption of suitable codes for craft engaged in pilot transfers would help ensure they are fit for purpose.

The most perilous part of a vessel's voyage is in pilotage waters, which is why pilots are engaged. For pilots the most perilous part of their day is embarking and disembarking the vessel, which is why SOLAS V/23 is required. Your compliance, consideration and action are essential.

## PARTICIPANTS

The chart below shows 4,339 returns from participating IMPA members which have been grouped into 6 geographical areas.
The total non-compliance is shown as a percentage of total returns from each region and and as a total.

| cOUNTRY | TOTAL <br> RETURNS | COMPLIANT | NON <br> COMPLIANT | NON <br> COMPLIANT <br> AS \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Africa | 100 | 81 | 19 | 19.00 |
| Asia / Oceania | 810 | 687 | 123 | 15.19 |
| Europe | 1679 | 1442 | 237 | 14.12 |
| Middle East | 79 | 71 | 8 | 10.13 |
| North America | 371 | 297 | 74 | 19.95 |
| South America | 1300 | 1191 | 109 | 8.38 |
| TOTAL | 4339 | $\mathbf{3 7 6 9}$ | $\mathbf{5 7 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 3 . 1 4}$ |

## Right: Picture by Rodge Musselwhite

COMPLIANCE BY REGION


The following chart shows a break down of all returns by vessel type. Both the number and the percentage of non-compliant vessels by type are shown.

| VESSELTYPE | TOTAL NUMBER OF VESSELS | COMPLIANT | NON COMPLIANT | NON COMPLIANT AS \% | Right: Picture by Rodge Musselwhite |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| General Cargo | 621 | 519 | 102 | 16.43 |  |
| Oil Tanker | 712 | 628 | 84 | 11.8 |  |
| Ro/Ro | 162 | 148 | 14 | 8.64 |  |
| Passenger | 233 | 208 | 25 | 10.73 |  |
| Container | 946 | 830 | 116 | 12.26 | $3-4$ |
| Gas Tanker | 165 | 154 | 11 | 6.67 |  |
| Reefer | 22 | 18 | 4 | 18.18 | =01 |
| Fishing | 13 | 8 | 5 | 38.46 | T |
| Bulkcarrier | 603 | 503 | 100 | 16.58 |  |
| Chemical Tanker | 308 | 267 | 41 | 13.31 |  |
| Car Carrier | 106 | 95 | 11 | 10.38 |  |
| Rig Supply Vessel | 115 | 97 | 18 | 15.65 |  |
| Other (E.G. Navy) | 400 | 352 | 48 | 12 |  |

COMPLIANCE BY VESSEL TYPE



## COMPLIANCE BY MEANS OF TRANSFER

The following chart shows a breakdown of all returns by means of transfer. Both the number and the percentage of non-compliant means of transfer by type are shown.

| MEANS OF <br> TRANSFER | TOTAL <br> NUMBER | COMPLIANT | NON <br> COMPLIANT | NON <br> COMPLIANT <br> AS \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pilot Ladder | 2729 | 2397 | 332 | 12.17 |
| Combination | 956 | 805 | 151 | 15.79 |
| Side Door and <br> Pilot Ladder | 455 | 396 | 59 | 12.97 |
| Gangway | 82 | 76 | 6 | 7.32 |
| Helicopter | 45 | 42 | 3 | 6.67 |
| Deck to Deck | 164 | 136 | 28 | 17.07 |
| TOTAL | $\mathbf{4 4 3 1}$ | $\mathbf{3 8 5 2}$ | $\mathbf{5 7 9}$ |  |



COMPLIANCE BY MEANS OF TRANSFER



## NON-COMPLIANCE <br> BY TYPE OF DEFECT

The first pie chart shows the percentage of the defects that were reported to the Authority. The second pie chart shows non-compliance by type of defect. Both the number and percentage are shown.

DEFECTS REPORTED TO AUTHORITY

| TOTAL NUMBER OF NON-COMPLIANT SHIPS IN SURVEY REPORTED | 570 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Number of defects reported to Authority |  | 46 |
| \% of non-compliant ships reported |  | 8.07 |
| \% of ships reported |  | 8.07 |
| \% of ships not reported |  | 91.93 |
|  | \% of ships reported |  |
|  |  |  |
| \% of ships not reported |  |  |

NON-COMPLIANCE BY TYPE OF DEFECT

| NON-COMPLIANT BY TYPE OF DEFECT | TOTAL | AS \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Pilot ladder | 337 | 49.2 |
| Bulwark/Deck | 140 | 20.44 |
| Combination | 83 | 12.12 |
| Safety Equipment | 125 | 18.25 |
| TOTAL | $\mathbf{6 8 5}$ |  |
|  |  |  |
| Pilot Ladder |  |  |
| Bulwark/Deck |  |  |
| $\square$ |  |  |

The first pie chart shows the types of defects of the pilot ladder. Both the number and percentage are shown. The second pie chart shows the types of defects of the bulwark / deck arrangements. Both the number and percentage are shown.

| DEFECTS OF PILOT LADDER | TOTAL | AS \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Not against ship's hull | 57 | 11.75 |
| Steps not of suitable material | 8 | 1.65 |
| Poorly rigged retrieval line | 51 | 10.52 |
| Steps broken | 14 | 2.89 |
| Steps not equally spaced | 26 | 5.36 |
| Pilot Ladder more than 9 metres | 10 | 2.06 |
| Steps dirty/slippery | 20 | 4.12 |
| Sideropes not of suitable material | 19 | 3.92 |
| Pilot Ladder too far forward/Aft | 14 | 2.89 |
| Steps painted | 8 | 1.65 |
| Incorrect step fittings | 29 | 5.98 |
| No bulwark ladder | 11 | 2.27 |
| Steps not horizontal | 87 | 17.94 |
| Other | 131 | 27.01 |
| TOTAL | 485 |  |
| Not against ship's hull | Sideropes not of suitable material |  |
| Steps not of suitable material | Pilot Ladder too farforward/Aft |  |
| Poorly rigged retrieval line | Steps painted |  |
| Steps broken | Incorrect step fittings |  |
| Steps not equally spaced | No bulwark ladder |  |
| Pilot Ladder more than 9 metres | Steps not horizontal |  |
| Steps dirty/slippery |  | Other |
| DEFECTS OF BULWARK / DECK | TOTAL | AS\% |
| No/faulty handhold stanchions | 52 | 33.55 |
| Ladder not secured properly | 87 | 56.13 |
| Other | 16 | 10.32 |
| TOTAL | 155 |  |


| No/faulty handhold stanchions | $\square$ |
| ---: | :--- |
| Ladder not secured properly | $\square$ |
| Other |  |

DEFECTS OF PILOT LADDER


## NON-COMPLIANCE <br> BY TYPE OF DEFECT

The first pie chart shows the combination defects. Both the number and percentage are shown. The second pie chart shows the safety equipment defects. Both the number and percentage are shown.

| COMBINATION DEFECTS | TOTAL | AS \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Accommodation Ladder not leading aft | 3 | 1.65 |
| Lower platform stanchions / rail incorrect rigged | 10 | 5.49 |
| Accommodation ladder too steep (>45 degrees) | 6 | 3.3 |
| Pilot Ladder not attached 1-5m above Accommodation Ladder | 28 | 15.38 |
| Lower platform not horizontal | 17 | 9.34 |
| Ladder(s) not secured to ship's side | 59 | 32.42 |
| Lower platform less than 5 metres above the sea | 29 | 15.93 |
| Other | 30 | 16.48 |
| TOTAL | 182 |  |
| Accommodation Ladder not leading aft | Lower platform not horizontal |  |
| Lower platform stanchions / rail incorrect rigged | Ladder(s) not secured to ship's side |  |
| Accommodation Ladder too steep (>45 degrees) | Lower platform less than 5 metres above the sea |  |
| Pilot Ladder not attached 1.5 m above Accommodation Ladder | Other |  |

COMBINATION DEFECTS


SAFETY EQUIPMENT DEFECTS


| SAFETY EQUIPMENT DEFECTS | TOTAL | AS \% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Inadequate lighting at night | 18 | 9.14 |
| No lifebuoy with self-igniting light | 73 | 37.06 |
| No VHF communication with the bridge | 17 | 8.63 |
| No heaving line | 40 | 20.3 |
| No responsible officer in attendance | 38 | 19.29 |
| Other |  |  |
| TOTAL | 11 | 5.58 |
| Inadequate lighting at night |  |  |
| No lifebuoy with self-igniting light | $\square$ |  |
| No VHF communication with the bridge | $\square$ |  |
| No heaving line | $\square$ |  |




## THE INTERNATIONAL <br> MARITIME PILOT'S ASSOCIATION

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