



This programme provides an introduction to the key issues surrounding towage in harbour and

at sea. By raising awareness of the challenges faced by crews both on tugs and towed vessels, it aims to help vessel owners get better value from towage services and reduce risk for everyone involved.



The need for planning and risk assessment of towage operations is covered in depth. These include formal procedures established by port authorities and Pilots, as well as informal procedures agreed between Pilot, Master and Tugmasters during operations.

The programme highlights best practice while identifying some common errors which reduce the effectiveness of towage operations and increase risk. Throughout, the emphasis is on good communication. This is covered in some detail between Pilot and Master, Pilot and Tugmaster and between deck crews on both vessels.

The programme stresses that detailed knowledge of the equipment used in towage is crucial. It highlights the need for officers and crews to understand the function and limitations of both passive and active elements, while emphasising the need for regular inspection and maintenance.

Working with Tugs

The DVD ends with a summary of the key messages and strong encouragement to make training and safety a priority.

Target Audience

The programme is aimed primarily at vessel Masters, their bridge and deck officers and seamen. It also is of interest to Pilots, harbour Masters and tug crews.

Main Topics

- Planning
- Assessing Risk
- Good Practice
- Harbour Operations
- Communications
- Offshore Operations

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*The Masters, Officers and Crews of
Arnold Maersk, Cornelius Maersk, Kirsten Maersk
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International Maritime Organization (IMO)
KST b.v. Rotor Tug
Lamnalco Group
Nautical Institute
Rickmers Reederei GmbH & Cie KG*

Details from: Loulla Mouzouris at Videotel Marine International,
84 Newman Street, London, W1T 3EU, U.K.
Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7299 1800 Fax: + 44 (0) 20 7299 1818
www.videotel.co.uk mail@videotemail.com