



Marine Industrial Safety Alert

A worker slipped and fell overboard

- 1) **Date of Accident:** September 2019
- 2) **Time of Accident:** Afternoon
- 3) **Place of Accident:** At the waters of a Public Cargo Working Area
- 4) **Vessel Involved:** Two local lighters

5) **Summary:**

Earlier, two local dumb lighters moored together for transferring a jack post from one lighter to the other by their own derrick cranes equipped on board at the waters of a Public Cargo Working Area. At the material time, the jack post was suspended at low level in-between two lighter for a worker cleaning with jetting water. As soon as he stepped on a rubber tyre fender at shipside of a lighter, he slipped, lost balance and fell into sea. His dead body was later found at sea.

Investigation into the accident is being carried out.

6) **Safety Alert:**

- A person in charge of works shall not carry out, or cause to be carried out, any works in a condition or manner that does not provide adequately against unnecessary risk of accident or bodily injury.
- It is the duty of the person in charge of works to take measures, in so far as reasonably practicable, to ensure the safety of a person employed at work.
- Reasonable measures shall be taken to ensure that a person employed does not remain on the vessel when works are being carried out unless he is wearing appropriate protective clothing and equipment (including but not limited to buoyance aid, etc).
- When works are carried out, every person employed working at shipside which is not installed with any fencing stanchions or any hand grips where having a foreseeable risk of falling into the sea should wear a lifejacket or buoyancy aid.

7) **Reference:**

- Applicable Legislation - Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (Section 45 of Chapter 548),
 - Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Works) Regulation (Sections 23 of Chapter 548I),
 - Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) (Works) Regulation (Sections 21 of Chapter 548I).
- Code of Practice - COP on Using Protective Clothing and Equipment for Works on Local Vessels (2nd Edition - January 2016)

DISCLAIMER

This Safety Alert ("the Alert") is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as masters of vessels / owners / persons in charge of works and supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Marine Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.