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# Local Maritime Direction – No 024

**This supersedes Local Administrative Instruction No. 020 which is now superseded**

To: All companies operating vessels in BGTW

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## Safety requirements during transfer of stores, spares, cargo or equipment

This LMD is applicable to all the companies licensed operating vessels in BGTW.

Following a recent incident resulting in a severe injury to a member of the crew of a Gibraltar workboat during a stores transfer at sea, please note following requirements for all vessels engaged in the transfer of stores, spares or equipment, either off limits, alongside or at the Eastern or Western anchorages.

These requirements shall be incorporated into Company's Safety Management Systems and/or Vessel Safety Manual, as applicable:

- The Company shall review the operational procedures, conduct appropriate risk assessments and provide familiarisation training and appropriate operating instructions in connection with cargo/stores transfers;

- The use of cargo nets and cargo bags for the transfer of stores, spares, barrels, drums, loose cargo, etc. is to be encouraged. When possible, heavy units should be directly attached to lifting wires or slings. In the case the cargo is too much for the cargo net for a single lift, the pallet should be broken down and cargo lifted in multiple lifts.

- When cargo nets are unsuitable for securing plastic drums due to the risk of lid displacement from compression, webbing straps should be used to secure the drums to the pallet.

- Reliance on plastic film on its own to secure 200 ltr drums onto pallets may be dangerous, contrary to the practise of good seamanship and should be avoided. The drums should additionally be secured to the pallet using webbing staps.

- Should the crane operator of the receiving vessel not have a clear view of the load a banksman must be utilised.

- Procedures shall include instructions to ensure that the movement of cargo blocks used during transfers may be controlled by means of attached lines / ropes and that proper communications are established between the delivery and receiving vessels.

- The Company shall provide suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) to all crew members, including, but not limited to, hard hat, protective boots and gloves.

- The person (Master or Boat-master, as appropriate) in charge of the vessel shall ensure that all crew wear the correct PPE when working on board.

- The Company shall ensure that the vessel is properly manned so that a minimum of two crew are available on deck during transfer / lifting operations.

Gareth Sheriff
Chief Surveyor (Ag)

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