



PD TEESPORT LIMITED

# NOTICE TO MARINERS NO.13 OF 2025

Issued by the Harbour Master on 06 January

**NORTH-EAST COAST OF ENGLAND  
RIVER TEES AND HARTLEPOOL**

## **DANGEROUSLY WEIGHTED SHIPS' HEAVING LINES**

The attention of Mariners is drawn to MCA Safety Bulletin No.2 of 2015 - "Dangerously Weighted Ships Heaving Lines" (copy overleaf) and also Section 26.3.5 of the Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers 2015 edition, which is reproduced below:

*"To prevent personal injury to those receiving heaving lines, the "monkey's fist" should be made with rope only and must not contain added weighting material. Safe alternatives include a small high-visibility soft pouch, filled with fast-draining pea shingle or similar, with a weight of not more than 0.5kg. Under no circumstances is a line to be weighted by items such as shackles, bolts or nuts, or twist locks."*

**NOTE:** Owners, Agents and Charterers should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to Masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.

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**Radar, AIS, CCTV, Telephone and VHF Channels are recorded 24/7.**

Harbour Master's Office, Ferry Road, Middlesbrough, TS2 1PL  
Administration: (01642) 277201 Email: harbourmaster@pdports.co.uk  
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Maritime &  
Coastguard  
Agency

# SAFETY BULLETIN No. 2

## DANGEROUSLY WEIGHTED SHIPS HEAVING LINES

There have been several instances where dangerously weighted heaving lines, including the use of monkey's fists with additional weights inserted into them, have been used resulting in serious injury.

Further guidance is contained in Ch 26 section 26.3.5 in the 2015 edition of the Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers.



Vessels using dangerously weighted heaving lines in the UK may be subject to  
prosecution

MSF 5029 Rev 10/1

To arrange a subscription to future Safety Bulletins go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/maritime-andcoastguard-agency-mca-safety-bulletins> For further information please contact Ship Safety Branch, Maritime & Coastguard Agency Tel: +44 (0) 2380 329 100  
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