

PORT NOTICE

Safe Pilot Transfer Arrangements

PN/009

OPS-LEG-09

General Manager Operations

*Partnering in growth, connecting people and supporting potential***PREFACE**

This Port Notice is issued pursuant to Section 57 of the *Ports Management Act 2015 (NT)*.

SCOPE

This Port Notice applies to pilot embarkation and disembarkation within the gazetted Port of Darwin limits as detailed in Figure 1.



Figure 1 – Darwin Port Limits

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IMPA	International Marine Pilots Association
SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea

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DIRECTION

Pilot transfer arrangements

Pilot transfer arrangements within the Port of Darwin must comply with:

- SOLAS Regulation V/23 – Pilot transfer arrangements;
- IMO Resolution A.1045(27) Pilot Transfers Arrangements;
- the provisions for the rigging of pilot ladders depicted in the IMO/IMPA Required Boarding Arrangements for Pilot poster included as Annexure A to this Port Notice;
- ISO 799-1:2019 Pilot ladders Part 1: Design and specification;
- ISO 799-2:2021 Pilot ladders Part 2: Maintenance, use, survey, and inspection;
- ISO 799-3:2022 Pilot ladders Part 3: Attachments and associated equipment; and
- the requirements set out in this Port Notice.

Notice

No later than 24 hours prior to arrival of a vessel at the Port of Darwin, the owners, master or occupier of the vessel must submit the following documents to the vessel's agent and Darwin Port Harbour Control:

- certificate of manufacture or photograph of the manufacturer's plate for the pilot ladder;
- the "Safe Pilot Ladder Securing and Boarding Arrangement Master's Declaration for the Port of Darwin" included as Annexure B of this Port Notice; and
- photographs of the vessel's stanchions, deck securing arrangements and trapdoor arrangements, if applicable.

Pilot ladders and manropes

All vessels calling the Darwin Port must comply with and the following requirements:

- maximum age of pilot ladders must not be more than 30 months from the date of manufacture as per the original maker's certificate;
- maximum age of man ropes used with pilot ladders must not be more than 12 months from the date of manufacture as per the original maker's certificate ;
- when not in use, the pilot ladder and man ropes must be stowed appropriately to avoid exposure to contaminants or other elements that will degrade them;
- pilot ladders and man ropes must be inspected by vessel crew trained in the rigging of pilot ladders and associated equipment before every use and should be replaced if found to be unsuitable; and
- all vessels must maintain relevant certificates for their pilot ladder and man ropes onboard and these must be produced when requested by Darwin Port.

Any vessel which has a poorly rigged or damaged or a non-compliant pilot ladder or associated equipment, will not be permitted to berth, until rectified to meet the requirements.

Vessels with a freeboard greater than 9m

Vessels that arrive or depart with their freeboard in excess of 9 metres must:

- assemble safe pilot boarding arrangements in the combination ladder format; and
- tuck their manropes through the ladder steps 1.5 metres above the horizontal platform of the accommodation ladder: see picture in Annexure D of this Port Notice.

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Vessels fitted with trapdoor arrangements

Vessels fitted with trapdoor arrangements must have:

- trapdoors with apertures not less than 750mm x 750mm that open upwards, are secured flat on the platform or against the rails and do not form part of the handholds; and
- pilot ladders and man ropes rigged through the trapdoor extending above the platform to the height of the handrail and aligned against the ship's side: see picture in Annexure C of this Port Notice.

REVIEW STATEMENT

This Port Notice will be reviewed biennially by the Port Management Officer.

REFERENCES

- SOLAS Regulation V/23 – Pilot transfer arrangements;
- IMO Resolution A.1045(27) Pilot Transfers Arrangements;
- ISO 799-1:2019 Pilot ladders Part 1: Design and specification;
- ISO 799-2:2021 Pilot ladders Part 2: Maintenance, use, survey, and inspection;
- ISO 799-3:2022 Pilot ladders Part 3: Attachments and associated equipment;
- *Port Management Act 2015* (NT); and
- *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011* (NT).

REQUIRED BOARDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PILOT

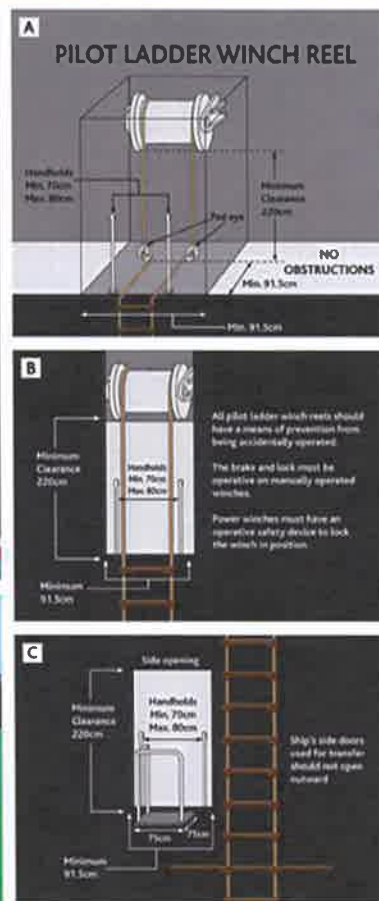
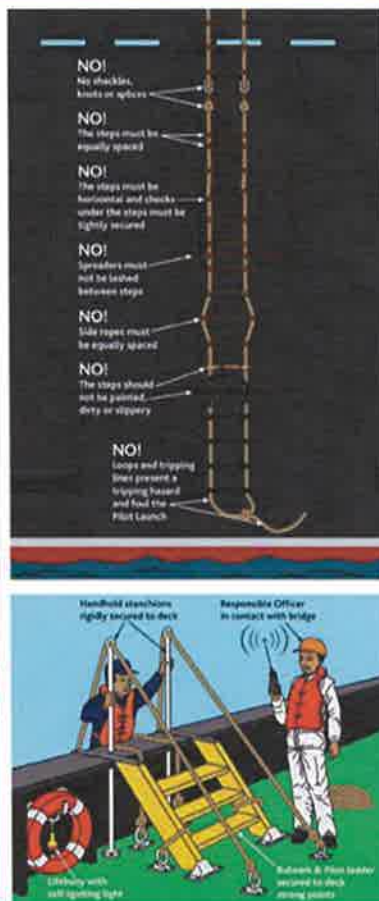
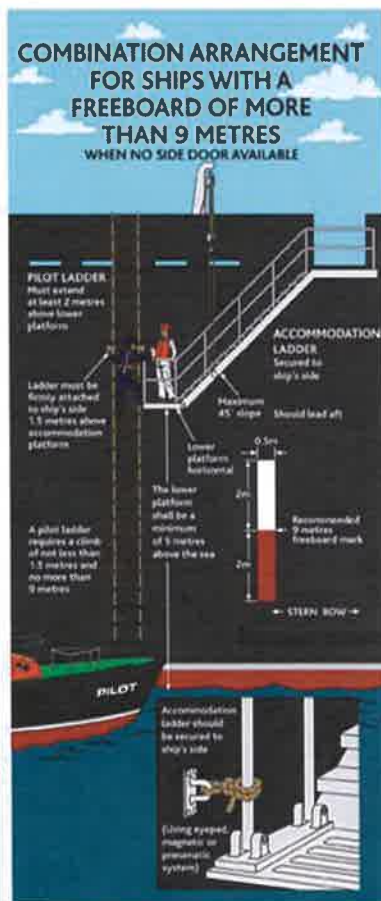
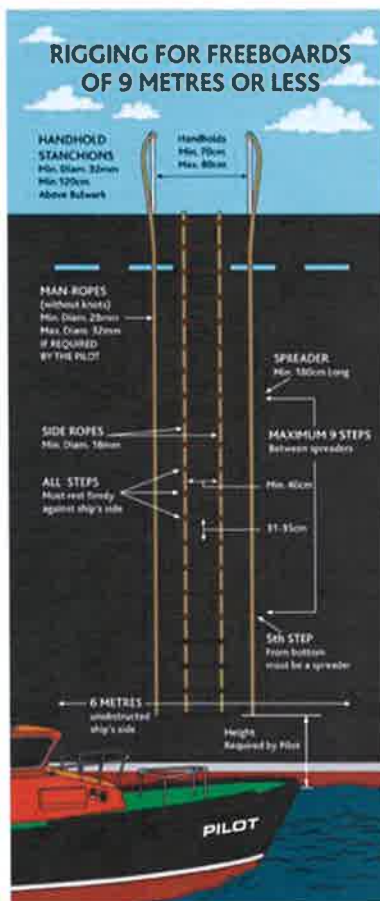


In accordance with SOLAS Regulation V/23 & IMO Resolution A.1045(27)

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME PILOTS' ASSOCIATION

H.Q.S. "Wellington" Temple Stairs, Victoria Embankment, London WC2R 2PN Tel: +44 (0)20 7240 3973 Fax: +44 (0)20 7210 3518 Email: office@impahq.org

This document and all IMO Pilot-related documents are available for download at: <http://www.impahq.org>



ANNEXURE B

Safe Pilot Ladder Securing and Boarding Arrangement Master's Declaration for the Port of Darwin

I, the Master of the LNGC/MT/MV/SS/FV/SV _____, declare that:

- the design, procurement, installation and ongoing maintenance of the pilot ladder, man ropes and trapdoor arrangements (if applicable) in use for calling the Port of Darwin comply with:
 - SOLAS Regulation V/23 – Pilot transfer arrangements;
 - IMO Resolution A.1045(27) Pilot Transfers Arrangements;
 - the provisions for the rigging of pilot ladders depicted in the IMO/IMPA Required Boarding Arrangements for Pilot poster;
 - ISO 799-1:2019 Pilot ladders Part 1: Design and specification;
 - ISO 799-2:2021 Pilot ladders Part 2: Maintenance, use, survey, and inspection; and
 - ISO 799-3:2022 Pilot ladders Part 3: Attachments and associated equipment;
- the pilot ladder is less than 30 months old from the date of manufacture;
- the manropes are less than 12 months old from the date of manufacture;
- when not in use, the pilot ladder and man ropes have been stowed appropriately to avoid exposure to contaminants or other elements that will degrade them;
- if applicable, vessels with a freeboard greater than 9m have been assembled in the combination ladder format with manropes tucked through the ladder steps 1.5 metres above the horizontal platform of the accommodation ladder ; and
- if applicable, vessels fitted with trapdoor arrangements have:
 - trapdoors with apertures not less than 750mm x 750mm that open upwards, are secured flat on the platform or against the rails and do not form part of the handholds; and
 - pilot ladders and man ropes rigged through the trapdoor extending above the platform to the height of the handrail and aligned against the ship's side.

Pilot Ladder Manufactured Date: _____

Pilot Ladder Supplier: _____

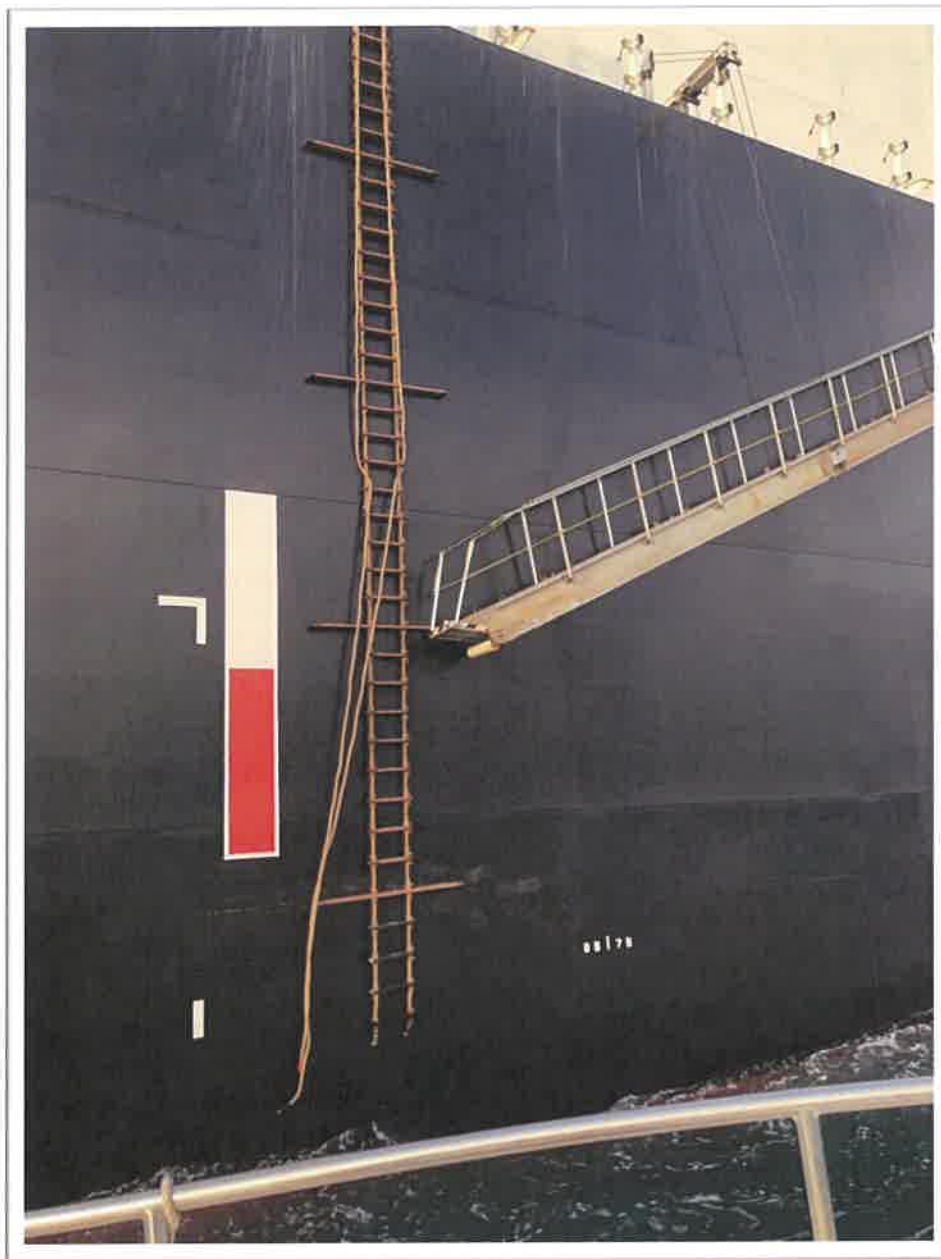
Master's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: Please complete this form and email this page and the copy of the Pilot Ladder Certificate to; HarbourControl@darwinport.com.au and Ship's Agent **24 hours prior to Arrival or Departure from Darwin Port**

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ANNEXURE C

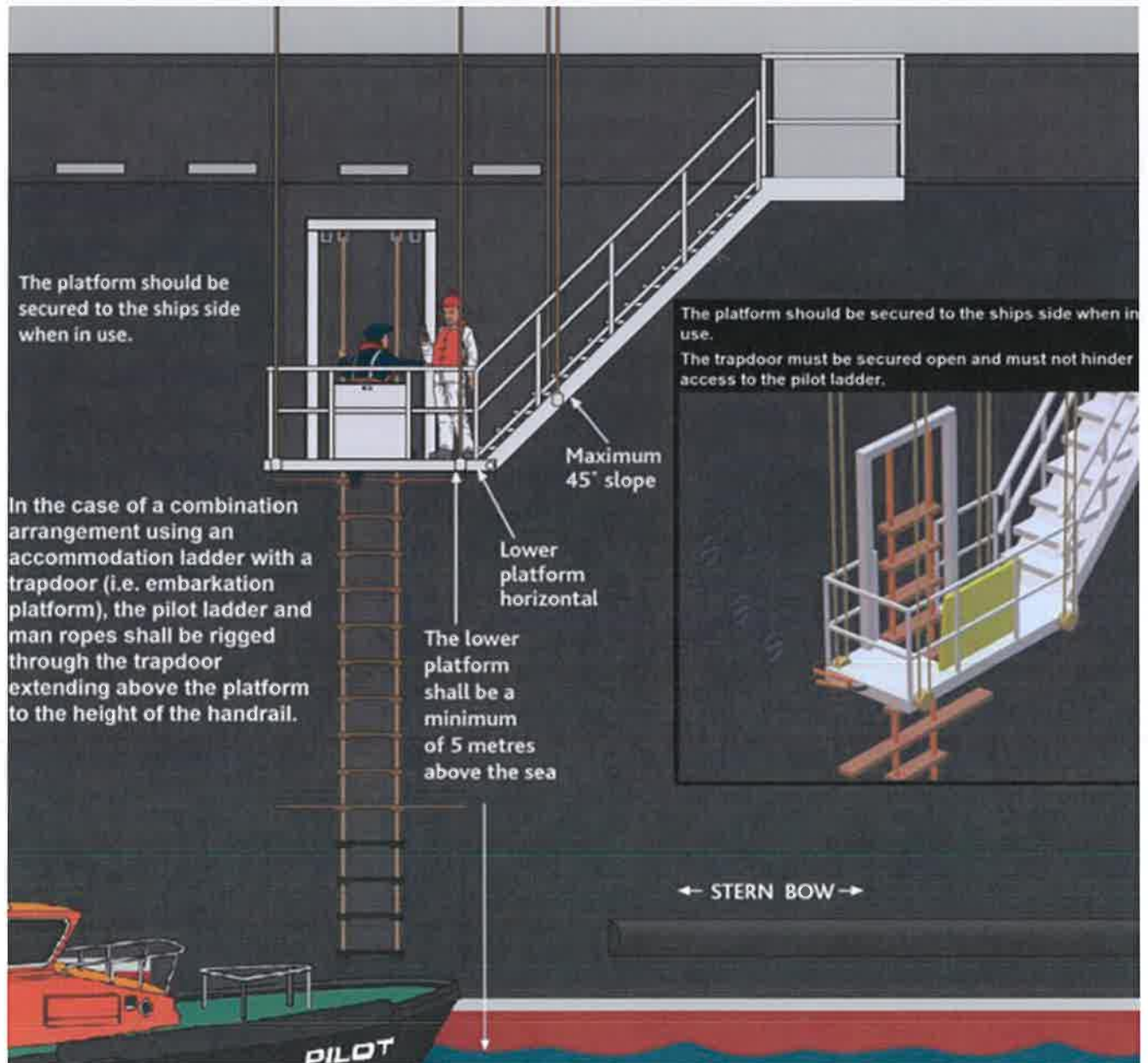
Photograph Illustrating the Combination Ladder with the Manropes tucked through the side ropes ~1.5 metres above the horizontal platform of the accommodation ladder



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ANNEXURE D

Pilot card depicting trapdoor arrangements



PETER DUMMETT
Port Operator
Darwin Port
23 July 2025