

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT  
Chief Directorate Shipping  
Private Bag X193  
PRETORIA  
0001

14 February 1995

## MARINE NOTICE NO 7 OF 1995

TO ALL PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, SHIPOWNERS, SHIP OPERATORS, SHIP AGENTS, STEVEDORES, SHIP REPAIRERS, MASTERS/SKIPPERS AND DECK OFFICERS OF SHIPS

### UNSAFE WORKING PRACTISES ONBOARD SHIPS

1. A recent casualty investigation was carried out by this department into the accident which resulted in the serious injury of a casual spray painter who fell through an unguarded open tweendeck of a cargo ships hold.
2. Attention is directed to regulation 25 of the Maritime Occupational Safety Regulations, 1994 (Government Notice No R1904) which states that

*Every employer shall ensure that any opening, open hatchway or dangerous edge into, through, or over which a person may fall is fitted with secure guardrails or fencing of adequate design and construction to prevent such occurrence, except where the installation of such guardrails or fencing will interfere with the proper performance of work. Should such guardrails or fencing interfere with the proper performance of work other suitable safety measures are to be taken to prevent any accident occurring.*

3. Ship officers are reminded of the dangers of not fitting guardrails to open accesses. All accesses should have a competent member of the ship staff supervising the opening until such time as guardrails are in place.
4. Attention is further directed to the following codes which are to be consulted with respect to the applicable safe working practices, namely :
  - i) Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seaman, and
  - ii) Code of Safe Working Practices for Fishing Vessels.



5. Ship staff are to work in close liaison with the shore personnel working on the vessel and are to draw to their attention to any current dangers which may affect them. Such information is to be passed on to the following shifts when applicable.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. T. T.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

for DIRECTOR-GENERAL: TRANSPORT

