



South African Maritime Safety Authority

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Date: 31 May 2012

Marine Notice No. 14 of 2012

Discharge of Steel Pipes

TO MASTERS OF ALL SHIPS IN SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS, SHIP OPERATORS, OWNERS, MANAGERS AND SHIP'S AGENTS, STEVEDORES AND SHIP REPAIR COMPANIES, LABOUR BROKERS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Summary

This marine notice advises persons involved with the discharge of steel pipes of the dangers thereof.

1. Recently there have been several occurrences of stevedores sustaining serious injuries whilst discharging steel pipes.
2. The following dangers whilst handling steel pipes are brought to your attention:
 - a. Unbundled pipes make the attachment / securing of lifting gear difficult.
 - b. Lashing / securing wires may have slackened during the voyage making stows unstable.
 - c. Dunnage may have become compressed during the voyage or insufficient dunnage may have been utilised at the port of loading, making the attachment / securing of lifting gear difficult.
 - d. Pipes may be oiled, thereby creating a slippery surface on which to stand and making the pipes difficult to handle.
 - e. Pipes create an uneven surface to work on.
 - f. Removal and discharge of loose pipes may result in remaining pipes in stow rolling into voids.
3. All concerned are advised to take the above into consideration when planning the discharge of steel pipes and ensure that appropriate precautions are in place.

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