

Associated British Ports
Ipswich

Local Notice to Mariners No 11

Dangers of Unattended Moorings

Owners and Mariners are advised that mooring lines on vessels berthed in the Port of Ipswich should be attended on a regular basis.

Each Year there are over 4,000 commercial vessel movements, operating throughout the tidal range. Over low water periods the interaction between vessels berthed and those passing is at its greatest. While it is the duty of ALL VESSEL TO PROCEED AT A SAFE SPEED, incidents are still occurring in the harbour where the mooring lines of vessels have been allowed to become slack by the ships crew, causing the vessels to surge along the quay breaking ropes.

While often the blame is initially focused on the speed of a passing vessel, investigation often shows that it is the lack of care with the tendering of mooring lines on the berthed vessel which is a major cause to the problem.

All vessels navigating within the Port of Ipswich do so at the sole risk of the Master and Owners thereof, who shall be responsible for the safety and security of their vessel and for any damage done to the property of the Port Authority and other persons.

Harbour Master

26th November 2004