



Associated British Ports

Ipswich

Local Notice to Mariners No 5 2008

Impeding Safe Navigation to Large Vessels

Mariners and Port Users involved with small craft and recreational activities are reminded that they must not obstruct or impede the movement of large vessels using the navigable channel or the approaches to a vessels berth.

Small craft must always take early action to move out of the navigation channel when a large commercial vessel is approaching.

A warning of the large vessels position may be given by one prolonged blast.

The view from loaded container vessels and other large vessels is restricted in the area immediately in front of the vessel. If you cannot see the bridge of a commercial vessel then it is unlikely the lookout will be able to see you from the bridge of the vessel.

It is this loss of visibility that when in close proximity to a large vessel you should not attempt to cross under a vessels bow. This is important in all situations including racing situations where any breakdown or difficulty your vessel encounters may go unnoticed on the larger vessel. Race organizers are requested to inform anyone taking part in an event of the dangers crossing ahead in a close quarters situation.

Harbour Master

23rd May 2008