

Safety Flash A12-05



Issued: 17th April 2012
Subject: Heaving Lines

Recently an oversized heaving line with a 'monkey fist' tied into position was incorrectly thrown and unfortunately struck and injured a person in the face as they were standing by on the wharf.



Example of a Monkey Fist

The purpose of the heaving line is to be light and safe to cast over the heads of those waiting to receive it. The 'monkey fist' when tied should not contain weighted objects (such as metal) in its core.

Recommendation to Members:

1. Review your heaving lines on board to see if they are 'fit for purpose' and safe to use.
2. Consider the alternatives (some below) and ensure those involved are aware of how to cast a heaving line safely.

