

Marine Safety Flash

A13-12 (15th September)

Ankle Injury



Incident Overview

The vessel was moored alongside and gangway installation was in progress. The second officer was paying out gangway winch, giving slack on the wire.

The IP was pulling the gangway and required additional manpower. The IP requested the assistance of the shore linesmen who began pulling the gangway as directed by the IP. The IP appeared to be in the wrong position and his foot became stuck under the gangway's roller. After the gangway was heaved up by the linesmen, the IP managed to remove his foot from under the gangway, moved away and lay down on the jetty.



The Medic came immediately for first aid and diagnosis and called the Ambulance who transferred him to hospital for further diagnosis/ treatment.

Key Findings

- A rope was in place for pulling over the gangway and to ensure a safe distance from the gangway and roller while movement was taking place. In this instance the IP took hold of the gangway rather than the rope, placing himself in the proximity of the roller when the weight was taken by the linesmen.
- On further investigation it was identified that the IP had not been involved in this task before and the job was not adequately supervised. There was no toolbox talk held and communication before and throughout the task was inadequate.

Recommendations

- Adequate job planning must be carried out, identify the right personnel and the competence required in order to do the job safely.
- Toolbox talks to be held prior to gangway operations.
- New or unfamiliar personnel must be supervised and mentored until they are familiar with the job.
- STOP the job if you feel uncomfortable with the job taking place.
- Additional ropes to assist more people in moving the gangway from the safe position.