

Marine Safety Flash

A13-14 (15th October)



Falls Into Water Whilst Boarding Vessel

Incident Overview

A person fell into the water while attempting to board a vessel, which was moored at a jetty.

The person was wearing an inflatable lifejacket and PPE. The person did not see the gap between the vessel and the berth and fell into the water. The lifejacket inflated and the person was recovered from the water by the crew, without severe injury.



Key Findings

- Proper boarding arrangements were not in place
- There was an open area between the vessel and the jetty
- There was no artificial lighting covering the boarding area

Recommendations

- Establish safe boarding arrangements, including adequate lighting after sunset
- Ensure the vessel is alongside at all times and mooring ropes are not slack
- Review the Risk Assessment for vessel access / egress to capture hazards and measures to be implemented to avoid a reoccurrence of the incident
- All crews to carry out a man overboard drill and assess if they have the right equipment in place to effect a recovery
- All crews be briefed immediately by the local HSE representative