

Marine Safety Flash

A16-08 (9th February 2016)



AB hit by a mooring rope

Incident Overview

The vessel was moored by stern in the Harbor when it was decided to adjust mooring lines as another vessel's bow was getting close.

One AB went to the forward mooring station to adjust the anchor. While the other two remained on the stern.

The AB's on deck commenced adjusting the lines on port side, then went to the starboard side.

The bollard was then turned a few times in order to use the capstan to tighten the lines. When this was done one AB held the line waiting for the other AB to start pulling the Capstan, however before he started to pull the line, the vessel started to move and at this point the rope broke. The rope consequently struck the AB in his chest/abdominal region of his body. The impact of the rope resulted in a superficial abrasion. The IP was treated with ice on affected chest / abdominal area and administered a pain killer.

Key Findings

- There was no tension in the rope.
- Rope was in a poor condition.
- Vessel was tied with a single line on both quarters.



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Recommendations

- Maintain a satisfactory scheduled maintenance inspection with respect to all wires and ropes on board making sure they are in good conditions prior to use on any task.
- Review the specific Risk Assessment for this task with the crew restating to them the importance of a safe position when handling wires and ropes, we never know where and when it may break.
- Always keep the area clear.