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SAFETY CIRCULAR

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TO: FLEET

SUBJECT: SNAP BACK ZONES

A snap-back is the sudden recoil of a mooring line as a result of its failure under tension. A snap-back zone on a mooring deck is the space where it is anticipated that the failed mooring line could recoil with great velocity, possibly resulting in injury or even death to crew present within this zone.

Guidance and a review of the hazards associated with snap-backs are featured in industry publications such as the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency's Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seamen (COSWP).

Snap back areas are more complex due to the below reasons:

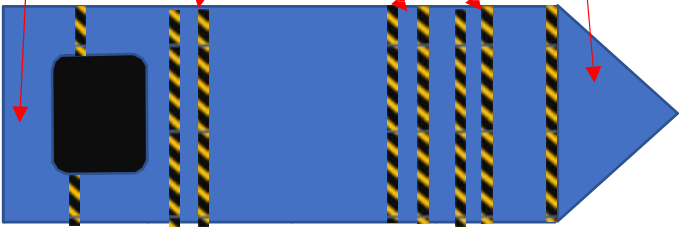
- Mooring configurations.
- The nature of the mooring line used with regard to elasticity.
- Breaking strength which may influence the trajectory of a parted mooring line.

Permanently marking snap-back danger zones on the deck is not recommended. Although there are areas of increased snap-back risk, it is not possible to accurately calculate the whole range of snap-back danger zones needed to ensure personnel are safe. Marking snap-back danger zones creates a false sense of safety for personnel standing outside of a marked danger zone.

Maritec Tanker Management dissuades the marking of snap-back zones on the deck and recommends that the entire mooring deck should be considered as a potential snap-back zone and clear visible signage must be displayed to warn crew.

A cautionary signage is to be displayed at the mooring area highlighting the potential dangers ahead. The signage is to be displayed in the below areas:

- 1) Forecastle deck area
- 2) Spring winch area fore and aft
- 3) Breast winch area fore and aft
- 4) Poop deck area



The cautionary signage should be as below:



Kindly re paint your decks as per above guidelines and conduct a training for all your involved crew prior your next mooring/unmooring stations.

Kindly also discuss the same during the next Safety Meeting on board.

**QHSE
Maritec Tanker Management Pvt. Ltd.**