

Fleet Memorandum #1 (Post for Public Review)

Overview

Two falling overboard incidents have been reported for TDI-Brooks' four vessels for 2008. The first incident involved a First Mate attempting to tie off the vessel at a dock. The individual was moving along the dock with the line and missed his footing resulting in him falling in the water between the dock and vessel. Fortunately, the individual was not injured and was retrieved quickly. The second occurred while the First Mate was on gangway watch at a dock. He was sitting in a plastic chair when a leg gave way and he fell into water again between the vessel and the dock. He had his radio with him with which he called the bridge for help. He was not injured and retrieved quickly.

Mitigation

Falling between the vessel and the dock is a serious accident that could result in significant injuries or death. Please review the above incidence with your crew and institute the following measures.

1. Review line handling procedures with crew assigned to do so. Senior vessel officers should direct activities and not participate. Their responsibility is to stand back and ensure that the operation is being conducted safely. Ensure that line handling crews are agile and well trained in potential hazards including: avoiding getting caught up in lines, staying aware of their position on the dock, avoid getting hit by lines, and using appropriate PPE, including PFDs during mooring operations.
2. All cheap mold plastic chairs (Walmart style) **should be removed** from all vessels. These chairs are unstable and do not support much weight. The legs of this chair can collapse due to personnel leaning back.

Thank you for your cooperation and please direct any comments and suggestions to Susanne McDonald, HSE