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Safety Measures to Ensure Safe Operations during Bad Weather



With the coming winter season and resulting increase in wind and sea state all vessels, especially tugs and barge combinations, should take extra care to ensure safe operations.

You should consider:

- Anchors and chain in good condition.
- Windlass and or Capstan in good working condition.
- Barge anchor release mechanism in good working order.
- Winch on barge in good working order and tested.
- Bridles and rope checked and renewed if necessary.
- When anchored always keep lookout and watch your barge.
- Tug to be in close attendance with barge at all times.
- If anchor drags put engine on immediate stand-by and inform port control. Consider paying out more anchor cable and/or deploy an extra anchor.
- Be prepared to heave anchor and put out to sea if conditions are not suitable to remain at anchor.
- Combinations to be anchored in designated anchor Zones.
- Special attention to be taken during strong wind/rough sea and to be updated with weather forecast.
- Keep safe distance from other vessels / combinations while at anchor.
- Master of vessels and tugs must ensure sufficient fuel/water/provisions are in stock in case delays due to bad weather.