

Safe Means of Access

Masters, owners, operators and agents of all vessels calling in Dublin Port are hereby notified of the requirement to provide a safe means of access between the ship and any quay to which the ship is secured.

Further it is a requirement of any person boarding or leaving the ship to use the access equipment provided. Special attention should be paid by all pilots, agents, service providers and visitors to the requirement of using only a safe means of access.

The Master of all vessels shall ensure that:

- a) Access equipment including safety nets is placed in position promptly after the ship has arrived and remains in position while the ship is alongside.
- b) Access equipment including safety nets are properly rigged, secured and safe to use.
- c) Access equipment is adjusted to maintain safe access at all stages of the tide.
- d) Access equipment is maintained in a serviceable condition.
- e) The area of access is adequately illuminated.
- f) A lifebuoy with self-activating light and a separate safety line attached to a quoit or similar device is provided.
- g) Where it is required to position a gangway on the quay wall, ships crews are not permitted to jump ashore, assistance must be requested. Masters are reminded that all persons working within 1.5m of the quay wall must don a lifejacket.

Vessels not providing a safe means of access will be reported to Port State Control.



Further information is available in [S.I. No. 108/1988 - Merchant Shipping \(Means of Access\) Regulations, 1988](#).

Captain Michael McKenna | Harbour Master | 01 January 2024