

Unit PSSPO107.1 Operate lock systems(SQA Unit Code-H78D04)

Performance Criteria

You must be able to

Operate lock systems

1. ensure that the quay area at the sides of the lock pit, and the water area within the lock, are clear of obstructions and **hazards** before a vessel is accepted into the lock
2. confirm that winches, capstans and sluices are operating properly before a vessel is accepted into the lock
3. establish and maintain clear and constant contact with the relevant person on the vessel ahead of and during its passage through the lock
4. provide clear instructions to vessels entering the lock as to where they must stop, confirming that these instructions are understood
5. ensure where required, mooring lines from the vessel are secured safely and securely at the correct locations, with proper allowance made for wind conditions and changes in water level
6. use fenders effectively and safely
7. identify and report immediately any **risk** to a vessel's safe movement through the lock
8. operate all equipment safely and carefully, minimising the likelihood of damage to equipment and vessels
9. report any damage to vessels, lock walls, gates or other equipment
10. refer any difficulties during lock operations immediately to the relevant person

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand

1. the legal responsibilities for maintaining own and others' health and safety in the workplace
2. the requirements placed upon the individual and the organisation by current legislation, relevant to operating lock systems, in own area of operations
3. current industry guidance relevant to operating lock systems, in own area of operations
4. own organisation's policies and procedures and working practices operating lock systems, in own area of operations
5. the operating capabilities and limitations of the operating lock systems, in own area of operations
6. the principal terminology and mechanical principles associated with the operation of locks in ports
7. the principal methods for communicating with vessels
8. the impact of the motion of vessels and tidal range upon lock operations in ports
9. the organisational requirements for addressing and reporting difficulties, or equipment faults, associated with lock operations

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10. the workplace procedures for dealing with incidents and emergency situations associated with operating locks and the passage of vessels through them
11. the importance of closing lock gates properly and the impact of not doing so upon lock levels, and the procedures for addressing such an emergency should this occur
12. the local geography and water conditions, including navigable channels and tides, and their impact upon the passage of vessels through locks

Glossary

1. **Hazard:** something with potential to cause harm
2. **Risk:** a risk is the likelihood of the hazard's potential being realised