

New Zealand Ports Safety Bulletin

Issue Date: 15 March 2024



Port Marlborough



Marine Pilot Transfer Arrangements

This safety bulletin is to be read in conjunction with any existing safety bulletins issued by individual ports, and is in addition to the requirements of SOLAS Regulations V/23, IMO Resolution A 1045 (27) and NZ Maritime Rules Part 53.

A number of vessels arriving on the New Zealand coast continue to present non-compliant, sub-standard Pilot transfer arrangements, including many ladders of low-quality manufacture.

Effective from 01 May 2024, the following safety criteria will apply to all vessels arriving and departing to or from New Zealand ports.

- **Maximum age of Pilot ladders is not to exceed 24 months from date of manufacture.**
- **Maximum age of manropes used with Pilot ladders are not to exceed 12 months from date of manufacture.** Certificates showing the manrope age should be available for inspection by the boarding Pilot upon request.
- All vessels fitted with a **Combination arrangement** should, if safe to do so, lower the maximum vertical climbing height to no more than 5m

Any Pilot transfer arrangement that is presented in a state that is non-compliant to the requirements of SOLAS Regulations V/23, IMO Resolution A 1045 (27), NZ Maritime Rules Part 53, or the above requirements, should expect to have the boarding Pilot refuse to use the arrangement, which may result in delays or costs attributable to your vessel – at the discretion of each respective port.

Any queries in relation to this Safety Bulletin should be directed to your next port of call.

