

Lesson Plan – 4.7-1 Mooring & Berthing	Date: 25/2/18 Mark Harker Cowes LAT / Helm

## **AIM:**

To give crew an understanding of the RNLI's policy on mooring and berthing for both ILB and casualty vessels

### **Training Afloat –**

- Demonstrate preparation for Berthing
- Demonstrate securing the ILB to a pontoon and or vessel
- Demonstrate how to rig for slipping a line for release for berthing and mooring to a buoy
- Demonstrate mooring to a buoy

### **Training Shoreside –**

- Communication from the Helm prior and throughout berthing and mooring to buoy
- Considerations when berthing / mooring to a buoy for prolonged periods of time
- Considerations when securing the vessel
- How to secure the ILB
- explain how to moor to a buoy and the considerations / hazards

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## **Berthing Alongside**

Prior to berthing, it is essential crew are briefed on the steps and roles. Fenders should be placed out in the correct position and height; and mooring lines prepared (flaked if needed). The helm should provide clear communication on the order of the lines, who does what and where fenders should be positioned, as well as making sure all are aware of the effects the tide and weather may have on the task.

when berthing for long periods of time, consideration should be given to the impact of tidal height changes and therefore the amount of line required and suitable line configurations. Chafing, security and access should also be taken into accounts.

When securing the vessel, it's important to consider safety first in terms of lines (tension / knots / placement); ability to disembark. Lines will usually consist of a bow line, stern line, bow and stern springs and breasting ropes.

When rigging so as to have the ability to slip the line. The bight can be placed ashore allowing for the line to be recovered from the boat. Both ends of the line can be secured on cleats aboard. Hazards still exist for lines under tension.

Lines should always be kept clear of propellers and not left with bights which present a hazard to persons.

## **Mooring to a Buoy**

In addition to the above, when mooring to a buoy use of a boat hook or for the ILB the sounding pole. At night a light should be used to clearly mark where the buoy is, however as the ILB closes in on the buoy, placement of crew who can guide the helm in with clear communication is essential. When carried out with a casualty vessel alongside, the ILB should aim to bring the mooring buoy in between the two vessels which aids visual guiding and ease of recovery.

Use of a slip line will aid releasing of the line and consideration to the swing circle. This may differ in distance if mooring for long periods of time with tidal height changes.

## **Reference Material:**

SOP

Video Clips -

Horizon Guidance -