



موانئ أبوظبي
ABU DHABI PORTS

Al Dhafra Region Ports

Pilotage Directions

[January 2018]



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1 DIRECTIONS

1.1 Purpose

These Pilotage Directions are laid down by the Abu Dhabi Ports Company, acting as the Port Authority, in the pursuance of its obligations under the Port Regulations.

1.2 Application

These Pilotage Directions apply to all Vessels bound to or from a Specified Port in the Al Dhafra Region of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

1.3 Definitions

Unless a contrary intention appears, words and expressions used in these Directions are defined as follows:

Cargo Vessel means a Vessel other than a Fishing Vessel or a Passenger Vessel.

Compulsory Pilotage means the requirement to engage the services of a Pilot to conduct the passage of a Vessel within a Pilotage Area.

Fishing Vessel means a Vessel licensed by the competent authority to catch fish.

Hazardous Goods means goods with a potential to cause harm or damage to persons, other living organisms, property or the environment.

Licensed Pilot means a pilot licensed by the Pilotage Authority pursuant to the Port Regulations supplied by the licensed pilotage service provider (SAFEEN).

Master has the meaning given in the Port Regulations.

Passenger Vessel means a Vessel certified to carry more than twelve (12) passengers.

Pilotage Area has the meaning given in the Port Regulations.

Pilotage Authority means the Abu Dhabi Ports Company PJSC.

Pilotage Exemption Certificate (PEC) means a certificate issued by the Pilotage Authority to the Master of a Vessel exempting that Vessel from the requirement to engage a Licensed Pilot within a Pilotage Area when personally navigated by that Master.

Port Regulations means the Transport Regulations (General and Port Operations) issued by the Abu Dhabi Department of Municipal Affairs and Transportation.



Specified Port means the Port of:

- (a) Mugharag; or
- (b) Such other Port(s) in the Al Dhafra Region as may be designated in the Port Regulations.

Vessel has the meaning given in the Port Regulations.

VTS means Vessel Traffic Service.

1.4 Exemptions from Compulsory Pilotage

Within the Pilotage Area of each Specified Port, Compulsory Pilotage shall apply to all Vessels with the following exemptions:

- (a) Vessels \leq 20 metres LOA
- (b) Fishing Vessels
- (c) Cargo Vessels \leq 80 metres LOA
- (d) Passenger Vessels \leq 24 metres LOA;
- (e) Warships or other Vessels in Government service; or
- (f) A Vessel conducted by the holder of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate.

The exemptions in paragraphs (a) to (d) above shall not apply to Vessels manoeuvring with the assistance of tugs.

The exemption in paragraph (c) above shall not apply to Cargo Vessels \geq 40 metres LOA transporting Hazardous Goods.

1.5 Pilotage Exemption Certificate

The Pilotage Authority may grant to a person who is the bona fide Master of a Vessel a Pilotage Exemption Certificate (PEC), provided he / she satisfies the conditions set out in the Schedule.

1.6 Suspension of Pilotage Directions

The Harbour Master may temporarily suspend or amend these Pilotage Directions from time to time without notice as, in his opinion, may be necessary.

1.7 Responsibility of the Master

Nothing in these Pilotage Directions relieves the Master of his overriding obligation to ensure the safe conduct of his ship.

Masters of Vessels engaging the services of a Pilot shall remain on the bridge during the 'ACT' of pilotage or ensure that a member of the crew who is capable of understanding and executing the Pilot's orders and advice is available at all times.



2 PILOT BOARDING ARRANGEMENTS

2.1 Pilot Boarding Stations

Where Pilotage is required by these Directions, pilots will embark / disembark Vessels at the Mugarag Pilot Station at the following

(a) **Delma-Mugarag Channel**

Latitude: 24 12.00 N – Longitude: 052 31.50 E

(b) **Sir Bani Yas-Mugarag Channel**

Latitude: 24 14.30 N – Longitude: 052 34.50 E

2.2 Pilot Boarding Arrangements

The boarding arrangements for the pilots will be confirmed by Mugarag Port VTS.

2.3 Pilot Transfer

Masters are reminded that the Pilot transfer arrangements on the Vessel must comply IMO requirements as specified in the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1974 (SOLAS) Chapter V Regulation 23, taking due account of the recommendations in IMO Assembly Resolution A.1045(27).

A good lee should be provided by adjusting course and speed so that the Pilot transfer can be accomplished safely.

The Pilot reserves the right to refuse to transfer to a Vessel if, in his or her opinion, the transfer arrangements are not in accordance with the requirements outlined above.

2.4 Communications

- (a) Abu Dhabi Ports operates vessel traffic management services. Mugarag VTS operates on VHF channel 08/16.
- (b) Vessels intending to embark or land a pilot must establish good VHF communications with the Pilot prior to undertaking the transfer.



3 PILOT BOOKING AND REPORTING

3.1 Pilot Booking

The agent of a Vessel bound to or departing from a Specified Port requiring the services of a Licensed Pilot shall submit a request to the service provider (SAFEEN) at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance through Abu Dhabi Ports' MAQTA Gateway.

3.2 Confirm Estimated Time of Arrival or Departure

The Vessel shall contact Mugharag Port VTS to confirm its estimated time of arrival (ETA) at the pilot boarding station, or estimated time of departure (ETD) from the Port, not less than four (4) hours prior to the event.

3.3 Failure to Comply

Failure to book a Licensed Pilot or to confirm ETA / ETD in accordance with the timescales given above may lead to a delay in securing clearance to enter or leave the Port.



SCHEDULE

Pilotage Exemption Certificates

1.0 Introduction

Pursuant to the Port Regulations the Pilotage Authority may grant a Pilotage Exemption Certificate to the Master of a vessel operating within the Pilotage Area of a Specified Port subject to the requirements set out below.

2.0 Application for Certificate

2.1 Qualifications

Each applicant for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate must:

- (a) Hold a Masters' Certificate of Competency enabling him to serve as Master of the Vessel concerned
- (b) Be the Master of the Vessel which he will be piloting within the Port
- (c) [Be less than 65 years of age on first application]
- (d) [Provide a medical certificate testifying to his physical fitness to carry out his duties as Master.]

[Note: Applicants aged 65 or over must provide a current medical certificate (ENG 1) on or before the anniversary of the renewal date of his or her Pilotage Exemption Certificate.]

2.2 Required Documents

Each Applicant must submit the following documents with their application for a PEC:

- (a) A valid Certificate of Competency (Master) duly endorsed by the Federal Transport Authority if not issued by the aforementioned authority
- (b) A copy of the Certificate of Registry issued to the Vessel
- (c) Proof of sea service in the form of a copy of relevant sections of the applicant's Seaman's Book or similar document
- (d) A current medical fitness certificate (ENG 1)
- (e) A completed application form - Annex 1
- (f) A completed Pilot attendance form - Annex 2
- (g) A letter from the agent of the relevant Vessel confirming the request and undertaking to pay the fee.



3.0 Competence Evaluation

3.1 Qualification Trips

Applicants for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate must complete six inward and six outward qualification trips to / from the pilot boarding station and berth of the relevant Specific Port within the previous twelve (12) months, of which at least two inward and two outward trips must be undertaken during the hours of darkness.

For each qualification trip the applicant must be accompanied by a Licensed Pilot or the holder of a valid PEC, who must endorse the applicant's tripping record.

For the purposes of these Directions, a qualification trip means an inward or outward passage to / from the respective Specified Port and / or berth and to / from the Pilot landing / boarding station, as the case may be. Moves between berths or to / from anchorages within the Port shall not be regarded as a qualification trip.

3.2 Examination

On completion of the required qualification trips, the applicant for a PEC will be required to undertake and pass a written and / or oral examination set by the Pilotage Authority.

The examination will assess, amongst other things, the applicant's knowledge of:

- (a) navigation of the Specified Port
- (b) the course and distance between any two places within the Specified Port
- (c) the rise and set of tides
- (d) the depths and character of soundings
- (e) the best anchorages
- (f) the sandbanks, rocks, shoals and other navigation hazards and dangers
- (g) landmarks, characteristics of buoys, beacons and lights within the Port
- (h) VTS and traffic control requirements; and
- (i) local regulations, procedures, safe practices, Notices to Mariners and any other matters that the examiners consider to be appropriate.

4.0 Validity of PEC

A PEC is valid for 12 consecutive calendar months from the date of issue or until the date of expiry of the Masters Certificate, whichever is the sooner.



The Pilotage Authority, at its discretion, reserves the right to suspend or withdraw a PEC if the authority deems the necessary to ensure safety or security of the Port.

5.0 General Conditions Applied to PEC

The following general conditions apply to the PEC:

- (a) Port charges remain payable by the Vessel whose pilotage is conducted by the holder of a PEC
- (b) Unless the Pilotage Authority is satisfied a Master holding a PEC has received adequate training and experience with harbour tug operations, a Vessel conducted by the Master requiring tug assistance must engage the services of a Licensed Pilot
- (c) The owner or operator of a Vessel must ensure the Pilotage Authority is notified whenever a Master who holds a valid PEC is relieved by Master who does not, and ensure the services of a Licensed Pilot are secured when required
- (d) The PEC issued to a named individual is non-transferable, and valid only for the Vessel, or type of Vessel, and Specified Port stated on the Certificate; and
- (e) A separate PEC is required for each Specified Port.



ANNEX 1
APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OR RENEWAL OF A PILOTAGE EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

PERSONAL DETAILS								
1	Surname							Forenames
2	Home Address							
	Telephone							
3	Date of Birth	4	Age	5	Nationality			
6	Grade of Certificate of Competency and Details and Dates of all Endorsements				7	Issued By		
8	Number of Certificate	9	Date of Original Issue and Date of Revalidation of Certificate					
EXPERIENCE								
10	Number of passages made as Master through each area over the past twelve (12) months: (This application should be accompanied by the Pilot Attendance and PEC Tripping Record)							
PILOTAGE EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS								
12	Details of each vessel for which experience has been gained and an Exemption Certificate is applied for:							
	Name of Vessel / Class of Vessel*	Owner	Type /IMO Number	LOA (m)	Max Draft (m)	Comments		
Date attended VTS Familiarisation (Please state at which Port)				Date and Place Attended Tug Berthing / Unberthing Familiarisation+				
DETAILS OF EXISTING PILOTAGE CERTIFICATES								
13	Date Granted	Expiry Date	Exemption Certificate Number			Port		



DECLARATION			
14	I hereby declare that the application information is correct and I confirm:		
a	I have studied am familiar with the following	Tick to Confirm	Date of Most Recent Edition / Notice
	1 All current local regulations		
	2 Most recent Notices to Mariners		
b	I have satisfactory working knowledge of the English language		
	Name	Signed
	Date		

15	The Ship's Owner or an Agent representing the Owner must sign applications below:		
	It is confirmed that the information given in this application for a Pilotage Exemption Certificate or Renewal of a Pilotage Exemption Certificate is correct.		
	For and on behalf of		
	Signed	Name
	Position	Date
	Company Address		
	Telephone Number		
	Notes: <i>The issue of a PEC is dependent upon an applicant completing at least six inward and six outward passages, of which two trips inwards and two trip outwards must be undertaken in hours of darkness, within a specific area over the past twelve months</i> * <i>Applicants for a PEC for different vessels in the same class will only be accepted if each vessel in the class has identical dimensions, equipment and handling characteristics.</i> + <i>Applicants who require assistance from tugs to berth or unberth their ship must demonstrate knowledge and experience of working with harbour tugs.</i>		



ANNEX 2



This document acts as evidence of the applicant for a PEC having acted as a pilot under the supervision and guidance of a Licensed Pilot or the holder of a valid PEC for the Specified Port.

Name	Date of Birth	Nationality

Certificate of Competency	Issued By	Valid From	Valid Till
PEC Number (When Applicable)	Port	Valid From	Valid Till

Vessel Name	Port of Registry	IMO Number	



Port	Date / Time of Commencement	Inward (√)	Outward (√)	Duration	Supervising Pilot / PEC Holder	Licence / Certificate Number	Signature