

VESSEL : _____

DATE : _____

Details of Training: Navigation – COLREGS




Rule 6 - Safe Speed

Every vessel shall at all times proceed at a safe speed so that she can take proper and effective action to avoid collision and be stopped within a distance appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions.

In determining a safe speed the following factors shall be among those taken into account:

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| <p>(a) By all vessels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the state of visibility; (ii) the traffic density including concentrations of fishing vessels or any other vessels; (iii) the manoeuvrability of the vessel with special reference to stopping distance and turning ability in the prevailing conditions; (iv) at night the presence of background light such as from shore lights or from back scatter of her own lights; (v) the state of wind, sea and current, and the proximity of navigational hazards; (vi) the draught in relation to the available depth of water. | <p>(b) Additionally, by vessels with operational radar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the characteristics, efficiency and limitations of the radar equipment; (ii) any constraints imposed by the radar range scale in use; (iii) the effect on radar detection of the sea state, weather and other sources of interference; (iv) the possibility that small vessels, ice and other floating objects may not be detected by radar at an adequate range; (v) the number, location and movement of vessels detected by radar; (vi) the more exact assessment of the visibility that may be possible when radar is used to determine the range of vessels or other objects in the vicinity. |
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	<p>HEALTH, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM</p> <p>23.0 NAVIGATION - COLREGS</p> <p>ON THE JOB TRAINING</p>	<p>OJT : 023 Page 2 of 2 Date : 07-Nov-25 Rev : 10.1 Appr : DPA</p>
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WATCH YOUR SPEED

- Rule 6 allows you to make your own judgement as to the most appropriate speed at any time for your vessel, taking into account the prevailing circumstances and conditions.

CAN YOU REACT EFFECTIVELY?

Without exception the safest speed is a reduced speed, because:

- It allows you to stop or turn effectively
- It gives you more time to think and to act in a developing situation -
- The time to react and respond effectively is all important - vessels moving too quickly can often fatally impair their own watch keeper's risk assessment processes.
- If collision does occur the resulting damage is likely to be a lot less
- **Remember the radar or ARPA is not infallible.** It may miss some targets altogether or it may show very large targets as weak echoes.
- **Navigational aids such as GPS can be equally suspect** - don't rely on one instrument for information, double check it against others.
- **Constantly monitor your speed** - The situation at sea is constantly changing and what can be deemed a safe speed in one situation can change with circumstances, sometimes suddenly!
- **Maintaining high speeds for commercial considerations should not be tolerated** - it is no excuse or defence for proceeding at an unsafe speed.

REMEMBER!

- The COLREGS are not just advice to the mariner - they are THE LAW.
- If you disobey the law you will suffer the consequences including imprisonment
- Ignorance of the law is never a defence.