



The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway System
Le réseau Grands Lacs - Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent

2010 - Notice to Shipping # 11

MAISONNEUVE REGION
MONTREAL / LAKE ONTARIO SECTION

TESTING “LATERAL HYDRAULIC ASSIST” IN LOCK 3, MAISONNEUVE

Lateral Hydraulic Assist was tested at Lock 3 during the 2009 navigation season, as part of the overall Hands Free Mooring strategy; however the procedure in place did not produce the desired outcome. As a result, the current settings for lateral hydraulic assist will be modified and re-evaluated.

Beginning May 28, 2010, **testing of lateral hydraulic assist at lock 3 will resume for upbound vessels with an overall beam of 21m or less** in order to evaluate the modifications made.

The ‘Lateral Hydraulic Assist’ is designed to assist vessels in the upbound direction to keep to the mooring side of the lock chamber. The ‘Lateral Hydraulic Assist’ is activated when the vessel is entering the lock. Once the operation is initiated the discharge valves at the lower end of the lock move to the fully closed position and the upper end tie-up side valve partially opens.

This valve opening permits the water to pass under the vessel and then return in a lateral motion to create a force on the side of the vessel. This force assists in keeping the vessel to the mooring side of the lock.

Masters / Pilots on vessels equipped with bow thrusters are encouraged to use them when entering the lock, once past the open lock gates, to assist the vessel in getting alongside of the tie-up side of the lock.

Operations Control Centre personnel will confirm with Masters / Pilots that their vessel will be tested at Lock 3 prior to the vessel’s arrival at Lock 3. Particulars of the test will be provided prior to the vessel’s entry into the lock.

Masters / Pilots involved in testing are asked to provide any comments / concerns with respect to the testing directly to the lock crew who will record them on the appropriate form.

Your cooperation in these tests is greatly appreciated.

Maisonneuve Region
May 27, 2010

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