



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

SEAWAY NOTICE NO. 3 – 2019

COMMUNICATIONS

Mariners are reminded that the following communications procedures will be in effect at the structures:

AT LOCKS

Lock crews' initial communication with ship will occur when ship is at the inbound L/A

Positioning Instructions

Ship to verbally acknowledge at minimum the following 3 positioning instructions (whether given by Lock personnel or vessel self-spotting radio):

- Initial communication (for final mooring position)
- 25 m spotting instruction
- Final spotting instruction (In position)

At U.S. Seaway Snell Lock #5 (MLO) for downbound maximum sized ships are required to winch to final mooring position the following additional communications must be acknowledged:

- The message "25 m to the 15m mark"
- The message "In position at the 15m mark"
- When the ship has winched into position, the message "In position"

Hands-Free Mooring (HFM) Instructions

The following communication protocol will be followed during a lockage when HFM equipment is in use:

- On initial communication, lock operator will advise ship that HFM will be used.
- At Final Mooring Position and stopped, lock operator will advise ship that pads will be attached & ship is not to use its engine(s):
 - o **Verbal acknowledgement from ship is required;**
 - o **Pads will only be attached to ship once confirmation from ship is received.**
- Lock operator will advise ship once pads are attached & lockage to begin.
- Once lockage is complete, lock operator will advise ship that pads will be detached:
 - o **Verbal acknowledgement from ship is required;**
 - o **Pads will not be detached from ship until confirmation from ship is received.**



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- Once pads are detached, lock operator will advise ship to exit lock.

AT BRIDGES (remote from locks)

The following procedure applies at all free-standing Bridges, namely:

- Br. 7A/7B, SLU, VAL in the Montreal Lake Ontario Section
- Br. 4, 5, 11 and 21 in the Welland Canal Section

The bridge operator will make a VHF radio call on the normal working channel to the last ship through the bridge draw, immediately prior to initiating the bridge lowering / closing sequence. e.g. "SHIP NAME, BRIDGE 21 WILL START TO LOWER". Ship may respond if there is a problem.

March 19th, 2019