



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

2012 - NOTICE TO SHIPPING #12

NIAGARA REGION
WELLAND CANAL

HANDLING OF MOORING WIRES

Mariners are advised that in an ongoing effort to provide safe and efficient transits for vessels and their crews, and in order to avoid any potentially unsafe situation for Seaway lock personnel, we request that Pilots / Masters give attention to the following areas:

- Ensure that every effort is made in order to avoid backlashes from the winches.
- Vessels preparing to cast-off will drift forward to avoid contacting the breastwall when the lower end gates are opening. This often results in long leads on mooring wires 2 and 4 that are then difficult to cast-off for the lock crew.
- Ensure that during the down bound cast off, vessel crews heave in the mooring wires only up to the point where the mooring wire eye reaches the fairleads. Heaving the mooring wire in completely to the winch drum before the lock crew has a chance to pass the heaving line back to the vessel could cause a potential unsafe situation.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Glenn Rutherford
Process Support Coordinator - Canal Services
St. Catharines, Ontario

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The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation
Corporation de Gestion de la Voie Maritime du Saint-Laurent

Région Maisonneuve
151, rue de l'Écluse
St-Lambert, Québec
J4R 2V6

Tél : (450) 672-4115 Fax : (450) 672-8493

Niagara Region
508 Glendale Avenue
P.O. Box 370
St. Catharines, Ontario
L2R 6V8

Tel : (905) 641-1932 Fax : (905) 641-5721