



2014 - NOTICE TO SHIPPING #7

NIAGARA REGION WELLAND CANAL

VESSEL SELF-SPOTTING RADIO – LOCK 3

Mariners are advised that the Vessel Self Spotting Radio is now functional at Locks 3. Beginning **Friday March 28, 2014**, Vessel Self Spotting Radio will be utilized for qualified vessels.

During the initial communication with an inbound vessel at L/A 2, the Spotter will inform the Master/ Pilot of the final mooring position. The Spotter will also advise the Master/ Pilot to rely on the VSS and the Vessel Self Spotting Radio messaging for positioning information. The radio system will transmit on Channel 17 Upbound and Channel 66 Downbound. The following are the three messages that the vessel will receive:

- The first message will broadcast when the vessel is 25 meters from its final mooring position: **“Lock 3, 25 meters to go, 25.”**
- The second message will broadcast when the vessel is 10 meters from its final mooring position: **“Lock 3, 10 meters to go, 10.”**
- The final message will broadcast when the vessel is at its final mooring position: **“Lock 3, In position, In position ”**
- **All vessels must verbally acknowledge the VSS Radio positioning messages, especially the third message, “In Position.”**

For non-qualified vessels, verbal instructions via the VHF radio will be provided as per established procedures.

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