



SAFETY AT SEA

THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT on the deck of a trawler at sea is very different to anything to be found ashore and in order to avoid accidents to himself or his shipmates, a young person taking up a career in trawling must learn quickly to adapt himself to the new unfamiliar conditions. Knowledge is the best insurance against things going wrong, but this can only be gained by experience. To assist and guide a youth in his early sea career a list of "Do Nots" has been prepared and is listed here:

- **DO NOT** stride over moving wires or warps.
- **DO NOT** try to take hold of running gear.
- **DO NOT** stand in the bight of a rope.
- **DO NOT** stand across a wire that is under stress.
- **DO NOT** stand outside the Messenger Wire when 'blocking up'.
- **DO NOT** use defective wires or ropes.
- **DO NOT** stand between a derrick and some fixed object when topping a derrick.
- **DO NOT** work outside the hand rails on the boatdeck, casing top or whaleback.
- **DO NOT** leave liver boiler lids open.
- **DO NOT** fail to keep a weather eye open for approaching seas or ignore warnings regarding water coming on board - prompt action saves lives.
- **DO NOT** step on the trawl - this is likely to run outboard.
- **DO NOT** fail to carry out the strict drill on all occasions when working the gear.
- **DO NOT** fail to pay special attention to "sprags" on warps and so avoid being pulled into a sheave or bollard. Splices are a particular danger.
- **DO NOT** negotiate ladders in an unseamanlike manner. Always face the ladder and use the hand holds and rails provided.
- **DO NOT** stand under hatches or suspended loads.
- **DO NOT** operate any of the winch motions until you are sure everyone is clear. Modern winches are powerful, non-yielding and silent.
- **DO NOT** play jokes at sea. Don't play the fool.
- **DO NOT** go to sea with defective sea gear; faulty sea boots and loose clothes have caused accidents.
- **DO NOT** ignore minor injuries. Prompt First Aid avoids infected wounds.

While every care is taken in the preparation of this page, it is published solely for the purpose of providing information and should not, in any way, be construed as a substitute for legal advice, which should always be sought in respect of any specific legal problems experienced.

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