FAMILIARISATION WITH BRIDGE EQUIPMENT

DATE PLACE	DATE PLACE		
BRIDGE CHECKLIS	BRIDGE CHECKLIST		
1. Has the operation of the following equipment been studied a	nd fully understood?		
- bridge and deck lighting			
- emergency arrangements in the event of main power failu	re \Box		
- navigation and signal lights, including			
- searchlights, signalling lamp, morse light			
- sound signalling apparatus, including			
- whistles			
- fog bell and gong system			
- safety equipment, including			
- LSA equipment including pyrotechnics, EPIRB and SAR'	Γ		
- bridge fire detection panel			
- general and fire alarm signalling arrangements			
- emergency pump, ventilation and water-tight door control	s \square		
- internal ship communications facilities including			
- portable radios			
- emergency 'battery less' phone system			
- public address system			
- external communication equipment, including			
- VHF and GMDSS equipment			
- alarm systems on bridge			
- echo sounder			
- electronic navigational position fixing systems			
- gyro compass/repeaters			
- magnetic compass			
- off-course alarm			
- radar including ARPA			
- speed/distance recorder			
- engine and thrusters controls			
- steering gear, including manual, auto-pilot and emergency arrangements (see annex A7)	changeover and testing		
- automatic track-keeping system, if fitted			
- ECDIS and electronic charts, if fitted			
- IBS functions if fitted			
- Location and operation of ancillary bridge equipment			
(e.g. binoculars, signalling flags, meteorological equipme	ent)?		
- stowage of chart and hydro graphic publications?			
Other checks:			
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PREPARATION FOR SEA

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	Has a passage plan for the intended voyage been prepared? (see section 2)	
2.	Has the following equipment been checked and found ready for use?	
	- Anchors	
	- bridge movement book/course and engine movement recorder	
	- echo sounder	
	- electronic navigational position fixing systems	
	- gyro/magnetic compass and repeaters	
	- radar(s)	
	- speed/distance recorder	
	- clocks	
3	Has the following equipment been tested, synchronised and found ready for use?	
	- bridge and engine room telegraphs including	
	- rpm indicators	
	- emergency engine stops	
	- thrusters controls and indicators, if fitted	
	- controllable pitch propeller controls and indicators if fitted	
	- Communications facilities including	
	- Bridge to engine room/mooring station communications	
	- Portable radios	
	- VHF radio communications with port authority	
	- Navigation and signal lights, including	
	- searchlight, signalling lamp, Morse light	
	- sound signalling apparatus, including	
	- whistles	
	- fog bell and gong system	
	- steering gear, including manual, auto-pilot and emergency changeover arrangements and rudder indicators (see annex A7)	
	- window wiper/clear view screen arrangements	
4	Is the ship secure for sea?	
	- cargo and cargo handling equipment secure	
	- all hull openings secure and watertight	
	- cargo/passenger details available	
	- stability and draught information available	
	- Are all the crew on board and all shore personnel ashore?	
	- Are the pilot disembarkation arrangements in place? (see annex A5)	
	Other checks:	

PREPARATION FOR ARRIVAL IN PORT

BRIDGE CHECK LIST		
1.	In preparing the passage plan for arrival in port, has a pre-pilot age information exchange place? (see annexes A1 and A2)	taken
2	Has the passage plan been updated following receipt of the shore to ship pilot/master exchange form and all latest navigational warnings?	
3	Has the ETA been sent with all relevant information required by local regulations (e.g. details of dangerous/hazardous goods carried)?	
4	Is it necessary to rearrange cargo/ballast?	
5	Has the following equipment been prepared and checked?	
	- course and engine movement recorders	
	- clock synchronization	
	- communications with the engine control room and mooring stations	
	- signaling equipment, including flags/lights	
	- deck lighting	
	- mooring winches and lines including heaving lines	
	- pressure on fire main	
	- anchors cleared away	
	- stabilizers and log tubes housed, if fitted	
	- has the steering gear been tested, and has manual steering been engaged in sufficient time for the helmsman to become accustomed before manoeuvring commences?	
	- have the engines been tested and prepared for manoeuvring?	
	- has the Pilot card (see annex A3) been completed and are the pilot embarkation arrangements (see annex A5) in hand?	
	- have VHF channels for the various services (e.g. VTS, pilot, tugs, berthing instructions) been noted and a radio check carried out?	
	- has the port been made fully aware of any special berthing requirements that the ship may have?	
	Other checks:	
	-Has the main engine been tried out ahead and astern and ready to move in for maneuvering	

EMBARKATION / DISEMBARKATION OF PILOT / PILOTAGE

DATE	PLACE	
	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1	Has it been agreed which side the pilot will embark/disembark?	
2	Have the pilot embarkation/disembarkation arrangements been checked and found ready for use?	
3	Has a deck officer been nominated to meet the pilot and conduct him to/from the bridge?	
4	Immediately on arrival on the bridge, has the pilot been informed of the ship's heading speed, engine setting and draught?	
5	Has the pilot been informed of the location of lifesaving appliances provided on board for his use?	
6	Have details of the proposed passage plan been discussed with the pilot and agreed with the master, including	
	Radio communications and reporting requirements	
	Bridge watch and crew stand-by arrangements	
	Deployment and use of tugs.	
	Berthing/anchoring arrangements	
	Expected traffic during transit.	
	Pilot change-over arrangements, if any	
	Fender requirements	
7.	Has a completed Pilot Card (see VN – 04) been handed to the pilot and has the pilot been referred to the Wheelhouse Poster?	
8	Have the responsibilities within the bridge team for the pilot age been defined and are they clearly understood?	
9	Has the language to be used on the bridge between the ship, the pilot and the shore been understood?	
10	Are the progress of the ship and the execution of orders being monitored by the master and officer of the watch?	
11	Are the engine room and ship's crew being regularly briefed on the progress of the ship during the pilot age?	
12	Are the correct lights, flags and shapes being displayed?	
13	Other checks:	
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PASSAGE PLAN APPRAISAL

BRIDGE CHECK LIST		
1.	Have navigation charts been selected from chart catalogue, including	
	- large scale charts for coastal waters	
	- small scale charts for ocean passages	
	- planning charts	
	- routeing, climatic, pilot and load line zone charts	
2.	Have publications been selected, including	
	- sailing directions and pilot books	
	- light lists	
	- radio signals	
	- guides to port entry	
	- tide tables and tidal stream atlas	
3.	Have all navigation charts and publications have been corrected up to date, including	
	- the ordering of new charts/publications, if necessary	
	- notices to mariners	
	- local area warnings	
	- NAVAREA navigational warnings	
4.	Have the following been considered?	
	- ship's departure and arrival draughts	
	- ship's cargo and any special cargo stowage/carriage restrictions	
	- if there are any special ship operational requirements for the passage	
5.	Have the following been checked?	
	 planning charts and publications for advice and recommendations on route to be taken 	
	- climatological information for weather characteristics of the area	
	- navigation charts and publications for landfall features	
	- navigation charts and publications for Ship's routeing schemes, ship reporting systems and vessel traffic services (VTS)	
6.	Has weather routeing been considered for passage?	
7.	Have the following preparations been made for port arrival?	
	- navigation charts and publications studied for pilotage requirements	
	- ship to shore master/pilot exchange form prepared (see annex A1)	
	- pilot card updated (see annex A3)	
	- port guides studied for port information including arrival/berthing restrictions	
8.	Other checks:	

NAVIGATION IN COASTAL WATERS

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	Have the following factors been taken into consideration in preparing the passage plan?	
	- Advice/recommendations in sailing directions	
	- Ship's draught in relation to available water depths	
	- Effect of "squat" on under keel clearance in shallow water	
	- Tides and currents	
	- Weather, particularly in areas renowned for poor visibility	
	- Available navigational aids and their accuracy	
	- Position fixing methods to be used	
	- Daylight/night-time passing of danger points	
	- Traffic likely to be encountered (flow, type, volume)	
	- Any requirements for traffic separation/routing schemes	
2.	Are local/coastal warning broadcasts being monitored?	
3.	Is participation in area reporting systems recommended including VTS?	
4.	Is the ship's position being fixed at regular intervals?	
5.	Has equipment been regular checked/tested, including	
	- gyro/magnetic compass erros	
	 manual steering before entering coastal waters if automatic steering has been engaged for a prolonged period 	
	- radar performance and radar heading line marker alignment ?	
	- echo sounder	
6.	Is the OOW prepared to use the engines and call a look-out or a helmsman to the bridge?	
7.	Have measures been taken to protect the environment from pollution by the ship and to comply with applicable pollution regulations?	
8	Other checks:	
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NAVIGATION IN OCEAN WATERS

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	Is keeping a look-out being given due priority?	
2.	Are NAVAREA, HYDROLANT AND HYDROPAC navigational warning broadcasts and other long-range weather reports being closely monitored?	
3.	Are changes to the local weather being monitored and is the barometer regularly observed?	
4.	Is participation in area reporting systems (e.g. AMVER) recommended?	
5.	Is the ship's position being fixed at regular intervals?	
6.	Are celestial navigational techniques being practised?	
7.	Are gyro/magnetic compass errors and radar performance being regularly checked?	
8.	Have radar techniques been practised (in clear visibility)	
9.	Have preparations been made for landfall?	
10.	Have measures been taken to protect the environment from pollution by the ship and to comply with applicable pollution regulations?	
11.	Other checks:	
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ANCHORING AND ANCHOR WATCH

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	Has an anchoring plan been prepared taking into account	
	- Speed reduction in ample time	
	- Direction/strength of wind and current	
	- Tidal stream when maneuvering at low speeds	
	- Need for adequate sea room particularly to seaward?	
	- Depth of water, type of seabed and the scope of anchor cable required	
	 Have the engine room and anchor party been informed of the time of 'stand-by' for anchoring? 	
	- Are the anchors, lights/shapes and sound signaling apparatus ready for use?	
	- Has the anchor position of the ship been reported to the port authority?	
2.	While at anchor, the OOW should	
	- Determine and plot the ship's position on the appropriate chart as soon as practicable	
	 When circumstances permit, check at sufficiently frequent intervals whether the ship is remaining securely at anchor by taking bearings of fixed navigation marks or readily identifiable shore objects 	
	- Ensure that proper look-out is maintained	
	- Ensure that inspection rounds of the ship are made periodically	
	- Observe meteorological and tidal conditions and the state of the sea	
	- Notify the master and undertake all necessary measures if the ship drags anchor	
	- Ensure that the state of readiness of the main engines and other machinery is in accordance with the master's instructions	
	- If visibility deteriorates, notify the master	
	 Ensure that the ship exhibits the appropriate lights and shapes and that appropriate sound signals are made in accordance with all applicable regulations 	
	- Take measures to protect the environment from pollution by the ship and comply with applicable pollution regulations	
3.	Other checks:	
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NAVIGATION IN RESTRICTED VISIBILITY

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	Has the following equipment been checked to ensure that it is fully operational?	
	- Radar, ARPA or other plotting facilities	
	- VHF	
	- For signalling apparatus	
	- Navigation lights	
	- Echo sounder, if in soundings	
	- Watertight doors, as appropriate	
2.	Have lookout(s) been posted and is a helmsman on standby?	
3.	Have the Master and engine room been informed, and the engines put on standby?	
4.	Are the COLREGS being complied with, particularly with regard to rule 19 and proceeding at a safe speed?	
5.	Is the ship ready to reduce speed, stop or turn away from danger?	
6.	If the ship's position is in doubt, has the possibility of anchoring been considered?	
7.	Other checks:	
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NAVIGATION IN HEAVY WEATHER OR IN TROPICAL STORM AREAS

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	Have the master, engine room and crew been informed of the conditions?	
2.	Have all moveable objects been secured above and below decks, particularly in the engine room, galley and in storerooms?	
3.	Has the ship's accommodation been secured and all ports and deadlights closed?	
4.	Have all weather deck openings been secured?	
5.	Have speed and course been adjusted as necessary?	
6.	Has the crew been warned to avoid upper deck areas made dangerous by the weather?	
7.	Have safety lines/hand ropes been rigged where necessary?	
8.	Have instructions been issued on the following matters?	
	- monitoring weather reports	
	 transmitting weather reports to the appropriate authorities or, in the case of tropical storms, danger messages in accordance with SOLAS 	
9	Other checks:	

NAVIGATION IN ICE

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST		
1.	- Have the master, engine room and crew been informed of the ice conditions?		
2.	- Have watertight doors been shut, as appropriate?		
3.	- Has speed been moderated?		
4.	- Has the frequency of sounding tanks and bilges been increased?		
5.	- Have instructions been issued on the following matters?		
	- Monitoring ice advisory service broadcasts		
	- Transmitting danger messages in accordance with SOLAS		
6.	- Other points:		
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DAILY CHANGEOVER THE OF WATCH

	BRIDGE CHECK LIST	
1.	When changing over the watch relieving officers should personally satisfy themselves regarding the following:	
	- Standing orders and other special instructions of the master relating to navigation of the ship	
	- Position, course, speed and draught of the ship	
	 Prevailing and predicted tides, currents, weather, visibility and the effect of these factors upon course and speed 	
	 Procedures for the use of main engines to manoeuvre when the main engines are on bridge control and the status of the watch keeping arrangements in the engine room 	
2.	Navigational situation, including but not limited to:	
	- The operational condition of all navigational and safety equipment being used or likely to be used during the watch	
	- The errors of gyro and magnetic compasses	
	- The presence and movements of ships in sight or known to be in the vicinity	
	- The conditions and hazards likely to be encountered during the watch	
	- The possible effects of heel, trim, water density and squat on under keel clearance	
	- Any special deck work in progress	
3.	Other points:	
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CALLING THE MASTER

BRIDGE CHECK LIST		
The OOW should notify the master immediately		
1.	If restricted visibility is encountered or expected	
2.	If traffic conditions or the movements of other ships are causing concern	
3.	If difficulties are experienced in maintaining course	
4.	On failure to sight land, a navigation mark or obtain soundings by the expected time	
5.	If, unexpectedly, land or a navigation mark is sighted or a change in soundings occurs	
6.	On breakdown of the engines, propulsion machinery remote control, steering gear or any essential navigational equipment, alarm or indicator	
7.	If the radio equipment malfunctions	
8.	In heavy weather, if in any doubt about the possibility of weather damage	
9.	If the ship meets any hazard to navigation, such as ice or a derelict	
10	In any other emergency or if in any doubt	
	Other points:	
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