

The Port Marine Safety Code Annual Statement 2009

The Board of Directors of the Port of Sheerness Limited has a duty under the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC): A Guide to Good Practice on Port Marine Operations section 2.1.4 to publicly report on PMSC performance.

We can confirm that the Marine Safety Management System operated in the port has undergone an audit in February and October 2009, firstly by the Harbour Master and Deputy Harbour Master from another group port and secondly by the group's Designated Person and Group Marine Director.

Each harbour authority must appoint an individual as the designated person to provide independent assurance directly to the duty holder that the marine safety management system, for which the duty holder is responsible, is working effectively. Their main responsibility is to determine, through assessment and audit, the effectiveness of the marine safety management system in ensuring compliance with the Code.

The Peel Ports Group has a firm commitment to continual improvement and we therefore set very high standards with a firm intent to achieve best practice within the port industry. As members of the United Kingdom Major Ports Group we engage with regulators, safety agencies and other port groups over a wide spectrum in order to improve marine safety through careful assessment and appropriate systems that are rigorously applied.

The Board is pleased to confirm that on basis of the audits there is sufficient indication that the requirements of the Port Marine Safety Code **are being met**.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Kavanagh".

Paul Kavanagh
Managing Director
Port of Sheerness Limited