

Safety Alert

Number: 18-27

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Subject: LTI – Fractured Toe

What Happened / Narrative

The IP was transiting from one deck to a lower using the external stairway. While carrying a bucket in one hand and holding onto the handrail with the other. As the IP descended the stairway the IP's foot slipped off the step and the IP fell onto the steps, to prevent further slipping down the remaining steps the IP placed the left foot in the space between the upright stanchions to break this falling motion.

Why Did it Happen / Cause

The weather conditions at the time of the incident was dry and the vessels' movement was not excessive, and the IP was wearing appropriate footwear. The only issue was the possible ineffective grip on the steps as a possible cause. The vessel has the standard perforated steps found on many ships but no additional anti-slip grip strip on the leading edge (as seen on the pictures).

Although in this incident there was no indication of the IP not using the handrail It is important that when transiting any stairway that the handrail is used.

Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

- Check that the anti-slip design or measures remains fit for purpose and has not been over painted or worn to reduce its effectiveness.
- We are entering that time of year that the risk of wet days and wet decks, surfaces are more prevalent use the trailing hand technique where you can, if not remember "one hand for the ship and one for yourself".
- Whether transiting (internally or externally) any stairway wear the appropriate footwear and PPE.

Photographs / Supporting Information



*For illustration purposes only



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