

# Line Handling Vessels

## Port Notice

### PN/005

***Work Safe. Live Safe.***

## VERSION CONTROL

VERSION	DATE	POSITION	NAME	REASON FOR CHANGE
1.0	04/04/2014			Initial Version
2.0	01/07/2015			Review – Introduction of Ports Management Act
2.1	30/06/2017	DOM	Gary Bawden	Biannual review
2.2	30/06/2017	GMO	Ian Niblock	Review of Updates
2.3	14/07/2017	GML	Sarah-Jane Archdale	Legal Review
2.4	27/12/2017	Executive Assistant	Alleen Breward	Re-brand
2.5	05/01/2018	GMO	Ian Niblock	Final Review & QA
3.0	08/01/2018	CEO	Terry O'Connor	Approval

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Revision no:	3.0	Review date:	30/06/17	Reviewed by:	DOM	PN/005
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**1. TITLE**

Port Notice for the provision of Line Handling Vessels operating in the Port of Darwin.

**2. REFERENCE LEGISLATION**

- *Ports Management Act 2015 (NT)*
- *Marine (Pilotage) Regulations*
- Technical and Safety Standard for Pilotage and Provision of Pilotage Services for the Port of Darwin

**3. SCOPE**

This Port Notice applies within the gazetted Port of Darwin as detailed in figure 1.

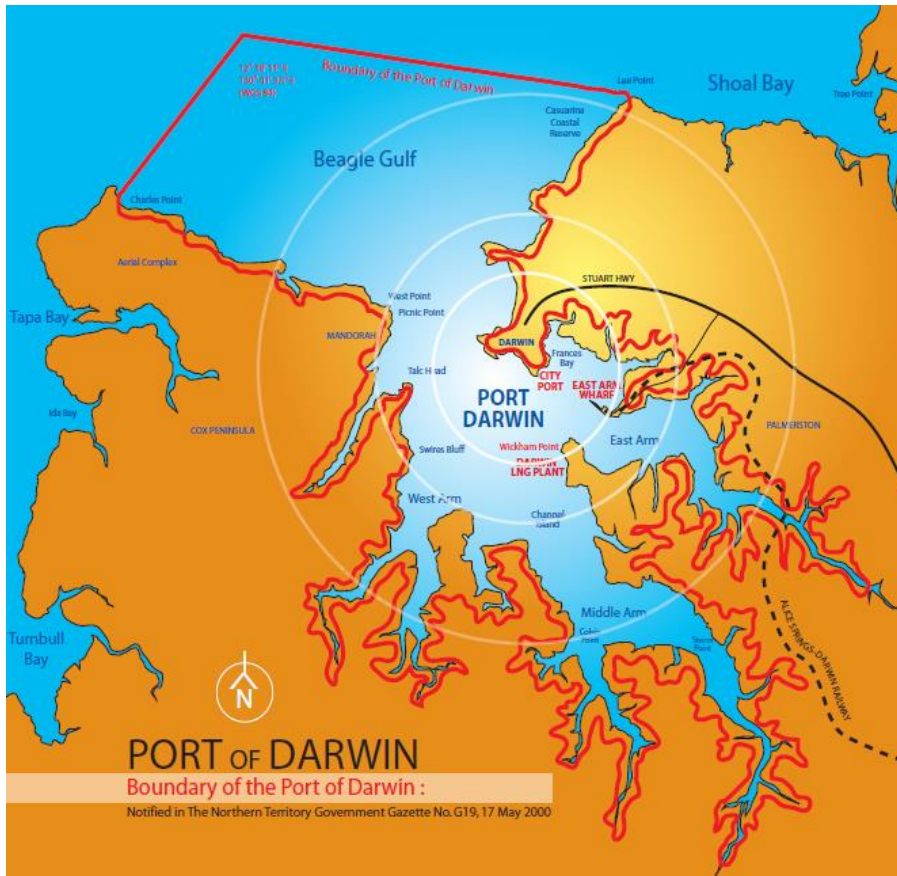


Figure 1: Darwin Port Limits

**4. PREFACE**

This Port Notice is issued Pursuant to Section 57 of the *Ports Management Act*.

The Port of Darwin is an “open port” for line handling services. The Port Operator neither provides a line handling service nor engages line handling service providers directly. This approach encourages competition amongst line handling service providers but does pose some challenges for the regulation of line handling service provider safety and operating standards.

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**5. REGULATION OF LINE HANDLING SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Line handling service providers are not specifically dealt with under current legislation. Notwithstanding this, there is a need for some regulation in order to maintain minimum safety and operating standards.

Section 12 of the Ports Management Act requires the Port Operator to establish, manage, maintain and operate facilities and services in the designated port that promote its safe and efficient operation and to facilitate trade utilising the designated port and use its best endeavours to increase the volume of that trade.

**6. NOTICE**

In order to control line handling activities and conduct for the purpose of maintaining or improving its safe, secure or efficient operation, the Port Operator may carry out initial and annual inspections of line handling service providers’ management and vessel systems to facilitate an initial and then ongoing acceptance of the line handling services offered by each respective provider. The Port Operator reserves the right to carry out inspections as required.

Inspections will incorporate the following criteria:

- Line Handling Service Provider – management systems and policies;
- Vessel certification in compliance with NTG requirements;
- Line handling vessel crew knowledge, experience and training;
- Line handling vessel operating procedures;
- Equipment maintenance schedules; and
- Records of drills and emergency exercises.

**7. VESSEL CONSTRUCTION**

Line handling vessels should be constructed and arranged in such a manner that they provide the crew with adequate working space and appropriate lashing points and apparatus to safely handle all types of mooring lines, including wires, in all conditions expected in normal line handling operations.

**8. PILOTAGE COMPLIANCE**

In the unlikely event that a line handling vessel exceeds the lower pilotage limit length of 35 metres LOA, the compulsory pilotage requirements under Technical and Safety Standards for Pilotage and Provision of Pilotage Services in the Port of Darwin will apply. This means that the affected line handling vessel master must obtain a Pilotage Exemption Certificate in order to operate in compliance with NT legislation.

**9. REVIEW STATEMENT**

This direction will be reviewed biennially by the Port Management Officer.



**TERRY O’CONNOR**  
**Port Operator**  
**Darwin Port**  
8 January 2018

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