

SAFETY TALK

WORKBOX MOORING: SAFE MOORING IS A TOP PRIORITY



01 KICK-OFF MEETING FOR WORKBOX MOORING
Board member Theo Baartmans presented the workbox Mooring to the crew of the trailing suction hopper dredger Shoalway during a kick-off meeting in January. From left to right: Wouter Blom, Steve Kowalski, Daan Verduijn, Theo Baartmans, Richard Wouda and Michel Becerra.

'The workbox Mooring responds to an urgently-felt need on all vessels, not only in the Dredging and Offshore Energy divisions but also in the Towage & Salvage division. Boskalis has a fleet of about a thousand vessels and floating equipment, and we also work a lot on projects with colleagues and equipment from partner companies or subcontractors. In recent years, we have seen how a single mistake during mooring can have a huge impact,' says board member Theo Baartmans. 'So eliminating risks is a top priority. The new workbox was developed as part of our NINA program to raise awareness of the dangers. It is also a training method with clear instructions and practical tips for working safely and for making agreements about clear communications. The Board of Management thinks this area is so important that we want to introduce the workbox fleet-wide this year.'

01 DANGEROUS SITUATIONS

'The introduction of the mooring actuator (see Cohesion 4-2014) shows that Boskalis is eager to develop safe mooring methods. But that innovation focused on mooring backhoes and barges, not on many other mooring situations we encounter,' says Jurriaan Guljé. As SHE-Q manager at Fleet Management Dredging, he is closely involved in the development and implementation of the new workbox. 'We cover as many aspects of mooring situations as possible. To take just one example: when a ship moors at a quay, often the "spring line" goes to shore first. The line can easily break due to the current or the power of the engine, and that represents a danger. By working through these situations, the workbox covers all facets relating to mooring. We look at, for example, the properties of the various winches on board, the different types of mooring lines, and the



Every day at Boskalis, many of our colleagues moor equipment either to a quay or another vessel, and there are always risks when people work with mooring lines. Errors of judgment can cause serious injury. That is why Boskalis is launching the workbox Mooring.



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THEO BAARTMANS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

breaking forces. We also discuss the possible consequences, and explain how you can see when a mooring line is worn. And the workbox describes the safe positions on board during mooring operations, as well as all the communications involved.'

CHALLENGE

In view of the large numbers of foreign crew members, the workbox is taught in English. 'It will be an enormous challenge to get the entire Boskalis fleet to participate in a workbox Mooring session within a year,' says Jurriaan. 'So we have developed a train-the-trainer program to pass on the information needed to conduct the sessions independently without supervision from SHE-Q.' All the sessions include the Safe Mind module, which looks at the risks of a routine approach to work, and they underline the

importance of a last-minute risk assessment, the YES scan: check Yourself, Equipment and Surroundings. 'Another important element is the storytelling component,' says Jurriaan. 'It is introduced by a video that shows how a colleague from Boskalis Terramare incurred leg injuries during a mooring operation, and the consequences for him.'

COMMITMENT

'We then ask participants to talk about their own experiences and insights and to present them on a kind of whiteboard to illustrate situations they have come across,' says Jurriaan. 'To show all possible risks, there is an animated film that was produced specifically for this purpose. That is followed by some practical exercises. We look at how to make agreements, signaling, preventing communication problems and talking to each other

about unsafe behavior. And, just as with the other workboxes, we ask the participants to sign a campaign poster at the end of the session to emphasize their commitment.'

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