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Port Notice No. 05/09

**NOTICE TO: MASTERS/BUNKER OPERATORS
SHIP AGENTS/TERMINAL OPERATORS**

Use of Road Tankers in Port Areas

This Port Notice is intended to bring to the attention of all concerned the appropriate use of road tankers whilst in port and other internal water areas and conducting transfers and loading/unloading operations involving petroleum products.

Road tankers that are duly licensed and certificated in terms of the relevant regulations are permitted to:

- 1) supply bunkers to vessels;
- 2) collect waste oils from ships;
- 3) be used for the discharge of bitumen products from ships.

Operators are hereby reminded that, apart from the associated safety and environmental concerns, the unloading of fuel from bunker barges and tankers directly into road tankers is not permitted as a standard condition in the "Licence to carry out the activity of an importer (and/or wholesaler) of petroleum" issued by the Malta Resources Authority issued in terms of the Petroleum for the Inland (Wholesale) Fuel Market Regulations (S.L.423.28).

Such practice is also prohibited under the Excise Duty Act (Cap. 382). The Sixth Schedule, Part D: Mineral Oils Regulations stipulates that "All imported petroleum oil or gas shall be landed from the importing vessel under Customs supervision and when imported in bulk shall be conveyed through approved pipelines to the storage tanks...."

In this regard the practice of discharging petroleum products directly into a road tanker is prohibited and should cease with immediate effect. Failure to comply with these instructions may result in both administrative and legal action.


CAPT. R. GABRIELE CMILT FNI
Harbour Master

2 April 2009