

## **Pilotage Advisory Committee**

### **Minimum Clearance between Vessels at Berth in Kwai Chung Container Port**

General Remarks (4) of the Berthing Guidelines states "good liaison should be established with all concerned agents, berth operators and pilot etc. for vessels required to 'wedge-in' and 'wedge-out' to ensure ample and safe fore-and-aft clearances are achieved." The Berthing Guidelines does not clearly define the minimum clearance required for all the berths in the Kwai Chung Container Port.

2. In practice, pilots exercise their discretion on the minimum clearance standard based on their professional judgment. Such practice leads to varying standard and in several occasions caused dispute between pilots and terminal operators. The conflict is likely to increase in the future taking into account new generation container vessels of increasing length.
3. This paper is to seek members' view on how such conflict could be resolved.

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