

**Marine Department Notice No. 187 of 2010**

**(Navigational & Seamanship Safety Practices)**

**Safe Mooring Operation**

During the berthing of a dumb steel lighter at a wharf, a sailor of the lighter landed at the berth to make fast the mooring ropes. Suddenly, a mooring rope from an adjacent dumb steel lighter parted and the sailor was hit by the rope.

2. Investigation into the accident revealed that the mooring rope yielded by a sudden impact force transmitted onto the rope when the moored lighter was hit by the berthing lighter operation.

3. To avoid recurrence of similar accidents, the attention of owners and masters of all vessels are drawn to the following important advice:-

- all crewmembers when working on board and ashore should avoid staying inside the snapback zones of any mooring ropes; and
- the condition of mooring ropes must be closely monitored and the ropes must be renewed when the condition of the mooring rope is found to have deteriorated.

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