Standard Operating Procedure - E001





Date of Issue

January 2026

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1 VEHICLE MANAGEMENT WITHIN ELIZABETH RESTRICTED AREA (ERA)

When a freight vessel is working there must be clear segregation between passenger and freight areas. The gates segregating the area must be closed by the FO.

When a freight vessel is working the east berth and a passenger vehicle vessel is working the west berth, only one of the vessels can work at any one time. In order to ensure segregation of freight and passenger operations the FO needs to prioritise the working order of the vessels.

Whilst the stevedore tugs are serving a conventional vessel, no vehicles are permitted to enter the southern operational area (as defined within the Elizabeth RA induction) unless permission is sort from the stevedore foreman in conjunction with the Ferry Operator) FO. Should a vehicle need to access the area the stevedore tugs must be instructed to stop.

1.1 Passenger vehicles

- a) Prior to accepting vehicles into the vehicle lanes, the ferry operator (FO) should ensure that the area is appropriately segregated from freight operations and is clear for use.
- b) When utilising the west berth for passenger operations the FO must liaise directly with the Stevedore Foreman and ensure the northern freight trailer park is segregated.
- c) FO vehicle marshal(s) shall validate the checked in passenger vehicles on entry into the ERA.
- d) FO vehicle marshal(s) shall remain in constant radio contact with stevedore foreman and shall co-ordinate assistance if and when required.
- e) The FO must ensure the vehicle access security gate is closed on completion of vehicle loading operations.
- f) Passenger vehicle movement on linkspans during freight operations must be closely coordinated by the FO marshal(s), to ensure there is no conflict between vehicles and tugs.
- g) Bicycle riders must dismount to transit linkspans and use the pedestrian walkway.
- h) Motorcycle riders must wear helmets when riding their vehicle within the ERA.
- i) The Stevedore company will load and discharge pods and unaccompanied vehicles as presented by the FO under their co-ordination, in accordance with the following:
 - i. SOP:E003 Freight Operations.
- j) The vehicle access security gate must be closed on completion of vehicle loading operations.

2 PASSENGER MANAGEMENT

Pedestrians must remain on designated pedestrian walkways.

All personnel working within the ERA has a responsibility to prevent pedestrians gaining access to active freight areas.

2.1 FOOT PASSENGER DISEMBARKATION / EMBARKATION

- a) FO will manage foot passenger embarkation and disembarkation, ensuring the following:
 - i) Foot Passenger movement on linkspans is strictly prohibited during freight tug operations.
 - ii) Foot passengers loading or discharging via a linkspan, at the same time as passenger vehicles, must be supervised and remain on the segregated walkways provided.
 - iii) Passengers exercising pets should remain within the vicinity of their vehicle or use the pedestrian walkways.
 - iv) "Pedestrians" should be prevented from entering freight operational areas.
 - v) Passengers who are mobility impaired must be given due consideration and assistance where required.

3 FOOT PASSENGER HANDLING

Ferry Operators will control foot passengers and passenger vehicles whilst transiting the linkspans, noting the following:

- Minimum Personal Protective Equipment requirements i.e. high visibility clothing and safety shoes.
- Foot passengers and vehicles should not transit linkspan roadway at the same time.
- Ferry Operators ship's crew and ground staff must always remain in radio contact with Solent Stevedores.