



Don't barge ahead – assess your risks

Construction barge CHECKLIST

Ensure all crew are familiar with your barge's Safety management system

Review and update your risk assessment before you operate. Risk assessment should cover key daily tasks

- Assesses likelihood and consequence
- Implements appropriate controls
- Identifies safety equipment (1)

Key aspects to consider (note list is not exhaustive – consider the specific risks of your operation):

Deck loads:

- Know maximum deck load
- Appropriately secured
- Stay below maximum load freeboard marks
- Maintain even heel and trim
- Load according to stability assessment

Lifting operations

- Stay within stability assessment
- Secure lifting device
- Keep centre of gravity as low as possible
- Maintain even heel and trim
- Consider weather – sea state, wind, tide, wake from passing vessels
- Appropriate mooring arrangements
- Keep bilges dry
- Method of communication/spotter
- Crane emergency stop

Access and personal safety

- Safe means of access
- Maintain three points of contact
- Guardrails
- Slip resistant deck surface
- Keep a clean and tidy workplace
- Wear lifejackets (2)
- Standby vessel to carry everyone on board (3)
- Means of reboarding from the water
- Lifebuoy with 30m rope
- Practice person overboard drill
- Means of communicating with other vessels in the area (4)

Induction

Crew are familiar with the barge and inducted on safety procedures

- Ensure induction records are kept up to date

Emergency preparedness

- Emergency plans – eg fire, person overboard, flooding, loss of stability, adverse weather
- Practiced emergency drills (records)

Maintenance

- Maintenance schedule for vessel, machinery and safety equipment

- (1) mandatory for barges operating under Exemption 41
- (2) mandatory for barges operating under Exemption 41 without guardrails
- (3) (mandatory for barges operating under Exemption 41 without a liferaft, lifeboat or rescue craft
- (4) mandatory for barges operating under Exemption 41

