

Abstract

High-sea tugs are specialized vessels used for emergency towing and the traction of other units, such as offshore structures. They are designed to provide excellent traction and maneuverability. The essential equipment for effective towing includes the towing winch, towing bits, and a suitable towline.

The procedures for connecting and passing the towline differ depending on whether the tug is towing a powered or unpowered vessel. Ensuring the safety of the tug is crucial, given the inherent risks involved in towing operations for both the tug and its crew. Adequate initial stability and proper positioning relative to the towed vessel are key factors in ensuring safety.

The safety of the towed vessel must also be taken into consideration, requiring specific precautions to be implemented. Onboard safety measures on high-sea tugs depend on various factors, such as the equipment used, including the towline, and effective communication throughout the operations.

By adhering to safety regulations and continuously seeking improvements, accidents can be prevented, ensuring the success of high-sea towing operations.