Title: Incident during mooring of material barge with construction barge
Location: Bow side bollard on the material barge
Activity Type: Mooring of additional mooring rope to the second bollard (Bow side) of material barge.
Result/outcome: Injury on both legs below knee

What Happened?
A construction barge was working for erection of mooring buoys. A material barge approached the construction barge for supply of casing and other materials. During mooring of material barge by mooring ropes, mooring rope got snapped and hit a rigger working for securing the material barge, severely injuring both his legs below the knee. The injured person sustained lacerated wounds below the knee joint with lots of bleeding and was shifted to base for the treatment after giving first aid at the barge hospital.

What Caused It?
Material barge approached the construction barge from port side (bow to bow). The sea state was fair and the swell was 1.5m. Two riggers (including the injured person) on material barge started securing of material barge by mooring ropes. The first bollard (Bow side and Astern side) was secured with mooring ropes. The towing boat slowly moved Astern to get material barge in final position. At this time while wrapping of mooring ropes around 2nd bollard (Bow side), a slight movement in material barge was observed and mooring rope attached to 1st bollard (Eow side) suddenly snapped and hit the rigger standing in snap back zone. The barge foreman was communicating with captain of towing boat and riggers on two different channels (Captain with VHF and riggers with UHF) resulted in miscommunication and hence the accident occurred.

Corrective Actions:
1. Snap back zone should be identified and colored.
2. Communication should be established on single channel to avoid miscommunication.
3. Condition of mooring ropes should be ascertained and also proper size of mooring ropes should be used.
4. Riggers should not stand in the eye or the bight area (Line of fire) of the rope.

It is provided for information purpose. This information should be evaluated to determine if it is applicable in your operations, to avoid reoccurrence of such incidents.