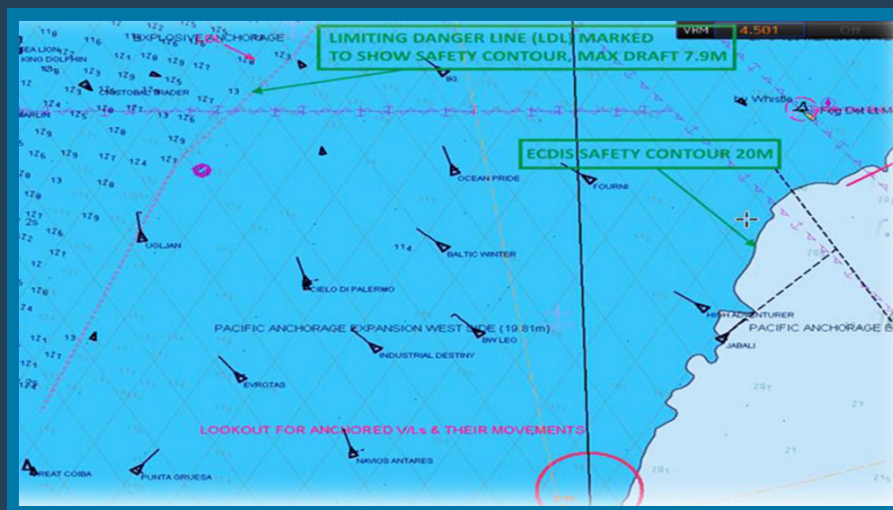




Human Element Maritime Enhancement Tool (H.E.L.M.E.T)



Dry - BMS Subject Area 21 “Bridge procedures & standards” (Basic & Excellence Level)

- HELMET ELEMENT 6 ‘Navigation’ – Item 1 ‘Safe Navigation Procedures’
- IMO ANNEX 24 RESOLUTION MSC.232 (82) – Reg. 5.8, Appendix 5
- V.I.Q. 7th Edition – Chapter 4. Navigation and Communications - Requirement 4.15

FINDING: During a remote Navigational assessment using VDR data, our Assessor noticed that the vessel was sailing across safety contour due to improper set up of the Safety parameters. The vessel was sailing in ‘safe’ waters and Under Keel Clearance was in accordance with the Company’s requirements. The values of safety depth and safety contour on ECDIS were properly calculated and inserted based on the vessel’s draft.

However, due to the selected value of safety contour’s unavailability in the ENC, the system by default increased to the next available deeper contour, resulting the crossing safety contour alarm to be continuously active.

IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The safety contour is one of the most important safety parameters of all safety settings, since it marks the division between ‘safe’ and ‘unsafe’ waters, detects isolated dangers and triggers anti-grounding alarms.

Bridge officers who are not familiar with the proper set up of Safety contour may lead to unfavorable situations due to ‘alarm fatigue’.

SUGGESTIONS

In case the selected value of safety contour is not available in the ENC, we suggest to reduce it to the lesser available chart contour. Additionally, the ECDIS user should consider the following items:

- Identify and mark limits for which the reduction of the Safety contour value is applicable.
- Use LDL (Limiting Danger Lines) based on the limits of the Safety depth value.
- Mark as No-Go Area the area between the safety contour and designated Limiting Danger Line.
- Maintain and update ECDIS configuration card and ECDIS hand over cards accordingly.
- Submit detailed Risk Assessment to the Company’s relevant department for approval.

