THE MERSEY DOCKS & HARBOUR COMPANY

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 2– 2010

APPROACHES TO THE PORT OF LIVERPOOL

DRILLING RIG ENSCO 92

Notice is hereby given that the following protocol is to be followed by all vessels transiting the east bound lane of the Traffic Separation Scheme south of the Douglas Offshore Complex on or about 3rd March 2010.

Vessels intending to use the Traffic Separation Scheme south of the Douglas Complex will report in to the Ensco 92 Traffic Desk by VHF Radio and will comply with the following procedure: -

At a range of 15 nautical miles from the Ensco 92, each vessel should call "Ensco 92 Traffic" on VHF Channel 13. This is in order to establish the following: -

a) that the approaching vessel has identified the Ensco 92 by radar,
b) that the Ensco 92 is recognised as a 'fixed' structure,
c) that there is a 500 metres Safety Zone in existence around the Rig, that all traffic complies with the requirement to remain outside of this zone and in line with good seamanship practice, give the rig as wide a berth as possible,
d) what will be the intended Closest Point of Approach (CPA),
e) should any vessel experience difficulty in manoeuvring at any time, or become 'Not Under Command', (as within the context of the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collision at Sea), during the transit past the 'Ensco 92', then the vessel's Master should contact the Traffic Desk on the rig immediately and inform them of the nature of the problem. The Traffic Desk will then alert the Guard Vessel/Tug which may render assistance to the vessel experiencing difficulty or which is Not Under Command, should it be necessary.

All vessels should be aware of the following points about the ‘Traffic Desk’ on the Ensco 92:

1. The desk is manned 24 hours a day by an experienced Desk Officer.
2. The Rig is fitted with two ARPA Radars: an active AIS and BHP Billiton’s own Radar Early Warning System (REWS) which is ARPA based.
3. The Rig is fitted with a Racon Beacon which transmits the morse letter ‘D’.
4. The Guard Vessel/Tug is a harbour type tug with a Push/Pull capability, and is also fitted with an ARPA Radar

Updates on the Ensco 92 arrival will be broadcast by Mersey Radio on VHF Channel 12 on the Situation and Movement Statements or on request

CAPTAIN S.F. GALLIMORE
HARBOUR MASTER **19TH FEBRUARY 2010**