

FORTH PORTS LIMITED

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PERMANENT NOTICE TO MARINERS FIRTH OF FORTH

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS TESTING

Following a recent incident the Master of the vessel concerned asked the pilot to provide a breath test for the presence of alcohol.

Masters and agents are reminded that tests for alcohol and drugs requested by the Master are given by the pilot on a voluntary basis.

Should a pilot agree to such a test then the test must be carried out under controlled conditions by an approved company. Forth Ports can arrange for such an approved company to undertake tests, the cost of which will be the responsibility of the vessels Master. To arrange for an approved test to be carried out Masters should contact the Forth & Tay Navigation Service.

Pilots are not to undertake drug and alcohol tests from non-approved sources such as equipment held on the vessel.

The above only applies when testing after an incident where there is no suspicion of the person concerned being under the effect of drugs or alcohol. In cases where there is suspicion the MCA and/or police should be informed who will then undertake the appropriate testing.

R BAKER
Chief Harbour Master