

NOTICE TO MARINERS No.8 of 2021

REQUESTS FOR VESSELS TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION OR AT SLOW SPEED

This replaces Portwide Notice 1 of 2021, which is hereby cancelled

When a reduction on vessel traffic speed is required, the term "Proceed with Caution" or "Proceed at Slow Speed" is used by London VTS in appropriate broadcasts.

The following should be noted by Masters, Berth Operators and other river users when requiring speed reductions requests be broadcast:

1. As a guide, requests for reduction in speed are appropriate for activities such as diving, salvage, heavy lifting, working on the waterline from scaffolding or pontoon/small boat, and bunkering operations. They may also be appropriate where the mooring facilities are limited e.g. when the vessel overhangs the berth or when a vessel is about to take the ground at a Not always Afloat but Safely Aground (NAABSA) berth.
2. A request for a reduction in speed of passing traffic should not be sought as an alternative to good seamanship such as the proper tending of lines and moorings in a tideway.

When London VTS has agreed to broadcast a reduction in speed:

1. The activity requiring the speed reduction will be identified in the broadcast, from which Mariners should judge the speed appropriate to the circumstances.
2. The person responsible for the request must ensure that the vessel or installation concerned is displaying the international code flags "Romeo Yankee" by day, and illuminated rigid replica by night. Failure to do so will result in the termination of the broadcast.
3. London VTS should be informed as soon as there is no longer the requirement for a speed reduction and the Romeo Yankee signal removed. The speed reduction broadcast by London VTS will also be terminated.



Romeo Yankee Signal

1 March 2021

Port of London Authority
London River House, Royal Pier Road,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 2BG

Terry Lawrence
Harbour Master (Thames
Tideway Tunnel)



TO RECEIVE FUTURE NOTICES TO MARINERS BY **E-MAIL**,
PLEASE REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE www.pla.co.uk
**Telephone calls, VHF radio traffic, CCTV and radar traffic images may
be recorded in the VTS Centres at Gravesend and Woolwich**
All Current Notices to Mariners can be found here -
**[http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety/Regulations-and-Guidance/Notices-to-
Mariners/Notices-to-Mariners](http://www.pla.co.uk/Safety/Regulations-and-Guidance/Notices-to-Mariners/Notices-to-Mariners)**

