



THE BRISTOL PORT COMPANY

NOTICE TO MARINERS (No. 24 of 2017)

Defining the Navigable Horizon

The Bristol Port Company's acquisition of a plough dredging capability has facilitated an active plough dredging programme in the entrances to the locks at Portbury and Avonmouth Docks.

Surveys show that this has resulted in the fluidisation of the mud in the lock entrances and the consequential lowering of the consolidated (high density) mud layer.

The Statutory Harbour Authority is content that the **Navigable Horizon** in both dock entrances can be defined as the 1.25tm⁻³ density layer (which equates to the 30 Pa yield layer), a change from the 1.20tm³ layer used previously.

Therefore, from now onwards, the Lock Approach Depths' Notices to Mariners will declare the least approach depths relative from Chart Datum to the 1.25tm⁻³ density/30 Pa yield layer.

Reports on any unusual occurrences whilst manoeuvring vessels in the entrances which may be attributable to fluid mud should be reported to the DHM(Conservancy).

Mark Burrows
Deputy Haven Master (Conservancy)

Marine Department
Avonmouth Docks

1st December 2017

**OWNERS, AGENTS AND CHARTERERS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS NOTICE BE
MADE KNOWN TO THE MASTERS OR PERSONS IN CHARGE OF THEIR VESSELS OR CRAFT.**