

## ISPS – ship security

*Good security is teamwork – a responsibility for all onboard, not just a select few, to protect and secure their environment*



**This document illustrates just a few examples of the positive ways in which Members' crews have responded to the need for onboard security and the preventive measures used to tackle this ongoing, ever-evolving, problem.**

## First lines of defence

### First line of defence – the gangway

By securing the gangway, the accommodation block and all other associated areas onboard this ship should be safer.



### Restricting the access

In this particular case, access is restricted by means of a door. The photograph below shows a portable aluminium door and screen erected at the top of the gangway. It is attached to the ship's rails via a clamping system. It is lightweight and fairly easy to



install once the ship is safely moored alongside and the accommodation ladder has been rigged. The door can only be opened from the ship's inboard side.

The security door has a clear 'security notice' and a bell to attract the attention of the ship's staff. The bell activates both an audible signal and a highly visible flashing light. Side screens prevent unwanted visitors from climbing around the gate.

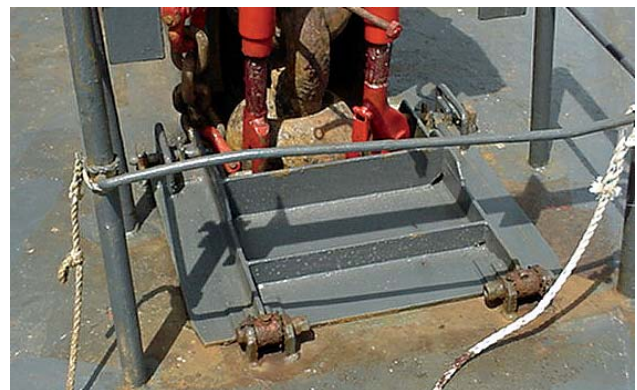
### Clear notices

This notice was displayed at the first point of access (normally in the vicinity of the accommodation ladder).



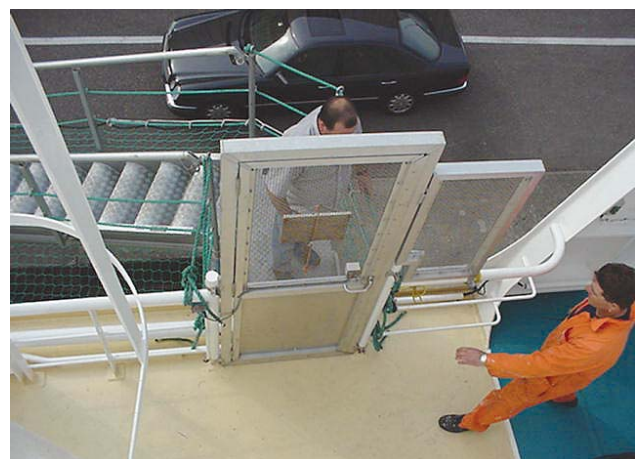
### Hawse pipes

The hawse pipe should be secured, below, to prevent unwanted 'visitors' to the vessel.



### Monitoring visitors

At the security gate of this vessel, the seaman on duty requests the visitor's ID and checks it against his list of anticipated visitors. If the visitor is not expected, the master is advised immediately.



# Checking on visitors

## Record keeping

All visitors to the ship shown below are entered 'in' and 'out' in a visitors log book.

The QM is always in radio contact with the duty officer and/or master.



## Body searches/screening

Under certain circumstances, body searches may be necessary. On this vessel, discreet searches are carried out using hand-held electronic devices.

Sensible and tactful body screening is important.



Typical hand-held electronic device

## Checking baggage

If a visitor to this ship has a bag, it is searched or screened prior to the visitor receiving a temporary ship's pass.



## Clear to enter

If a visitor has been cleared to enter this ship, he or she is issued with a temporary pass.

Written records of the time on/time off and pass number are recorded in the visitors' log book.

The ship's pass is returned to the QM when the visitor leaves the ship.



## Clear, precise written records

Clean clear records of all visitors should be maintained. Flag administration officers and other port officials may wish to refer to past log entries. The visitors log is kept in a similar fashion to the deck and engineroom logbooks, with all entries in ink and legible.

Pencil and scruffy entries may cause problems, and are discouraged.

BADGE NUMBER	PORT	NAME	ID SHOWN	COMPANY	VISITING	DATE/TIME	SIGNED ON	DATE/TIME	SIGNED OFF BY
1	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	HOUSTON	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

A record book of all visitors should be maintained

# Electronic surveillance

## Electronic surveillance may assist ships' staff

Recording visitors to this ship may assist shore authorities and the operator during times of a high security level or a security alert.



Here, it is possible to photograph all visitors to the vessel. Records are stowed on a disc or tape, and would be very useful during times of a security alert.



# Radio communication

This ship's staff use walkie talkie radios (not GMDSS SOLAS radios) to maintain effective patrols of the deck.



Vigilance is considered essential, and unattended suspect packages are reported.

## Video display of visitors and selected parts of the ship

Here, there was continuous monitoring and/or recording of sensitive or restricted parts of the ship. The display below was situated in a cargo control room, which was continuously manned.



Sensitive areas are under continuous surveillance and recording devices are in operation on some ships.

Continuous electronic surveillance on passenger ships is quite common. In today's society this is often seen as the acceptable method of quietly and discreetly policing all shipboard areas. Often it is less disruptive than having security guards. Cameras are directional



and have a zoom capability. On this vessel, above, the cameras assist security staff onboard.

### Search/electronic surveillance of all persons and bags

Passenger ships have large numbers of ship's staff and passengers to screen. Probably one of the most effective and less disruptive type of screening is the airport type shown below.



### Passenger ships – crew ID

On many passenger ships, there is a separate secure 'check-in area' for the ship's staff, using a swipe card system which is carefully monitored by the ship's security team.



### Alert system

Many vessels have a ship safety alert system button installed.



## Secure entry points

### Protecting crew accommodation

The following two photographs show methods of accommodation block security: locked gates are another barrier to the unwanted visitor trying to access the living quarters of the ship.



Locked gates protect the ship's living quarters



A steel door can be secured in port, restricting access to the stairways

## Restricting movement on exterior stairways

Here, external stairways are protected by gates.



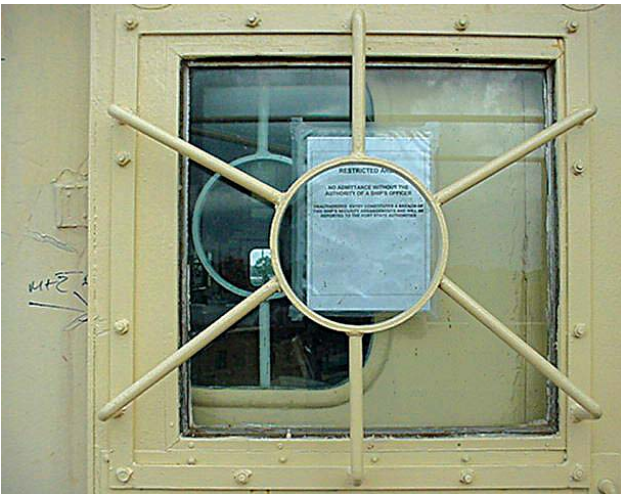
## Open void spaces

These areas are often overlooked. Simple duct tape or masking tape to reduce the size of the access will assist this ship's staff completing stowaway searches.



## High security measures

Some areas of the ship, shown below, require additional security measures, depending on the trading areas of the ship.



## Frequent use areas

Not forgetting the bosun's store!



## Locks and coded keypads

### Coded keypads or key locks on steel doors

On this vessel, below, coded door locks restrict access to the unwanted visitor, but allow easy escape from the accommodation, or other areas, in times of an emergency such as a fire.



Coded keypad and, right, keypad with a VDU display

### Coded locks on interior doors

Accommodation interior doors on this ship have been fitted with coded locks.



## Emergency escape

In the event of a fire, all security procedures should allow for easy escape from inside the accommodation and, in addition, allow ships' fire fighting crews to enter restricted areas. Coded locks or keyed access locks would appear to be one solution.

The bolt shown here, under the security door lock,



would probably be used at night time in pirate areas – all the ship's staff being safely secured inside the accommodation.

**Accommodation door with an easy exit in the event of fire**



## Deck lockers

'Lock it up or loose it' – secured deck lockers.



## Sounding pipes

This sounding pipe has been secured to prevent pilferage and improve water-tightness of the bilges. A fully tightened cap with a good thread should not allow unwanted water ingress into the bilges or other areas.



# Controlling sensitive areas

## Foc'sle areas

Secure hawse pipes make it difficult for unwanted visitors to gain access to this ship.



**Another method of securing hawse pipes**

## Engine room security

This is one area that is often overlooked. Is your funnel door secured?



## Access control

Restricted areas on ships can be clearly identified using simple stencil – cheap and effective.



Simple stencil lettering for restricted area signage

## Cargo security

As shown, many ships now use plastic container seals to 'back up' or replace the cargo hold padlock. They can also be used in other places, such as securing the enclosed lifeboat entrances, and for crews' changing lockers. Plastic container seals are cheap and are only used once.

Many types of container or hatch security seals are on the market: plastic; wire type; and steel bolt type – effective security that can be visually checked quickly.



## Checking stores

The photograph below shows all stores being carefully checked against the invoices prior to acceptance. Suspicious items are treated with care and, if clarification cannot be obtained, the package is separated and reported.



# Staying aware

Watch patrols should be maintained and security logs kept up-to-date.



Extra lighting should also be available. In this case the ship has fitted additional gas-tight lights in a poorly-lit area to improve the ship's security.



## Security applies to all onboard

A noticeboard can keep ships' staff well informed and regularly updated, thereby improving security. All onboard, not just a select few, should be made aware of shipboard security.

## Preparing for the unexpected

What these examples cannot illustrate is the ongoing work behind these security measures. The need to practice security drills, to regularly audit and update security procedures, as well as to maintain continuous synopsis records – the need to be prepared. They are not exhaustive, but show some ways in which the issues of safety and security onboard have been tackled. But behind it all is the need to share information and knowledge. To constantly refine and review the methods and equipment used, with a view to achieving the highest standards possible.

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