



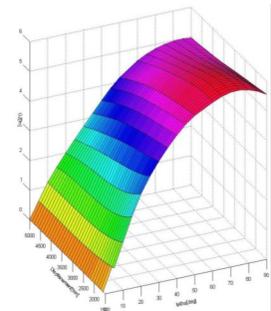
SafeTOW: safety in towing and anchor handling

Press release: October 2nd 2013

SafeTOW is our safety system which offers a solution for stability aspects of vessels engaged in towing and anchor handling

In 2007, the Bourbon Dolphin Capsized with the loss of eight crewmembers. The final Royal Commission report led to the implementation of new procedures and recommendations. The Royal Commission makes a number of recommendations with the objective to prevent similar accidents in the future and requirements need to be made in the future for the preparation of stability calculations for anchor handling. The Commission proposes measures to improve the companies safety management systems. Risk assessments must be improved to prevent accidents like this in the future. At this [link](#), you can find what happened to the Bourbon Dolphin in an animation of the accident.

The reduction in a tug's range of stability caused by the increase in the stern trim is by far the most significant. Some officers do not realize how close they may be to capsizing when they apply large amounts of thrust to maneuver their tug. Tug vessels are very powerful vessels and can be thrown by having their strength used against them.



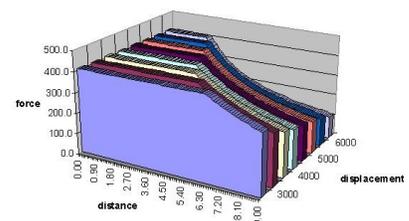
Righting arm curves



SafeTOW is HMC's new safety system which facilitates safe anchor handling and towing operations and is intended for all parties involved in these operations with a responsibility for safeguarding safety aspects in connection with anchor handling and towing.

SafeTOW presents the maximum towline forces in advance of the towing operation. The safety system does this in relation with the lateral distance of the vessel's centerline. The system guarantees the safety of your crew and vessel when used accordingly. HMC's SafeTOW delivers an extensive safety card which can be used at the bridge to keep an eye on all things which could happen during towing or anchor handling operations. Our system can be combined with HMC's Cargo Planning and Loading Instrument (CPC 2.0).

HMC has obtained a considerable amount of experience in transport engineering and maritime operations. The danger of a catastrophic loss of stability capsizing a tug cannot be underestimated. Unfortunately, it is one of the quickest ways to lose a vessel. Officers only have minutes to recognize the situation which is irretrievable. For a tug master, the safety of the crew and vessel are priority number one. More information about SafeTOW can be obtained at info@hmc.nl



Example of HMC's measurements

HMC BV
Operetteweg 4
1323 VA Almere, The Netherlands
Tel.: +31 (0) 36 5464775
E-mail info@hmc.nl, website www.hmc.nl

