

Port of Ashburton – VBRAMP / IMP Management

Number: A05/2025

Date: 18/02/2025

Date of Effect:	18/02/2025
Details:	Port of Ashburton – VBRAMP / IMP Management
Former Notice:	NA
Charts & Publications:	NA
Further Notice:	NA
Attachments:	NA

Mariners are advised that Pilbara Ports was recently notified that the online marine biofouling management tool “**Vessel-Check**” was retired by DHI on 30 January 2025 and is no longer available for use. “**Vessel-Check**” was leveraged by Pilbara Ports to help determine the risk of non-trading commercial vessels carrying Invasive Marine Species (IMS) to its Ports and provide recommended management actions to reduce the vessel risk status.

A requirement to provide an IMS risk assessment via “**Vessel-Check**” is set out in Pilbara Ports’ Vessel Biofouling Risk Assessment and Management Procedure (VBRAMP). The VBRAMP also supports Pilbara Ports’ ongoing compliance to Condition 6 of Ministerial Statement (MS)1131, which relate to the management of IMS at the Port of Ashburton.

As an interim measure, and to ensure ongoing IMS risk management, Pilbara Ports advises the following:

- The Port of Ashburton VBRAMP will be retired, as it fundamentally relies on the performance of the “**Vessel-Check**” platform.
- References to “**Vessel-Check**” will be removed from Pilbara Ports’ Port Handbooks and will instead refer to:
 - The Australian Maritime Safety Authority Marine Notice 11/2022 – Biofouling and in water cleaning – available [here](#)
 - the Australian in-water cleaning standards – available [here](#)
 - International Maritime Organization’s (IMO) 2011 Guidelines for the control and management of ships’ biofouling to minimise the transfer of invasive aquatic species (the Biofouling Guidelines) – available [here](#)
- All non-trading vessels are to comply with Commonwealth Government (and IMO) requirements and guidance measures in place for the management of biofouling and in-water cleaning, as specified under AMSA Marine Notice 11/2022.
- These interim measures are supported by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

All current local Marine Notices are available on our website: <http://www.pilbaraports.com.au/#marine-notices>

- **Dampier Vessel Traffic Service** | Phone: (08) 9159 6556 | FAX: (08) 9159 6557 | dampier.vts@pilbaraports.com.au Mariners and other port users are requested to notify the Harbour Master on the discovery of new dangers or suspected dangers to navigation within the Port.

The Port of Ashburton Port Handbook has been updated to reflect these changes, and latest version has now been released. This document is available on the Pilbara Ports website through the below link:

<https://www.pilbaraports.com.au/ports/port-of-ashburton/about-port-of-ashburton/port-handbook>

Capt. Mike Minogue
Harbour Master

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