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## Port of Varanus Island – Heat Related Illness

Number: V01/2025

Date: 23/01/2025

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Date of effect:	23/01/2025
Details:	Port of Varanus Island - Heat Related Illness
Former notice:	NA
Charts and publications:	NA
Further notice:	NA
Attachments:	NA

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Pilbara Ports has become aware of an incident where a crew member has fainted due to heat related illness.

The summer months in the West Pilbara region where Pilbara Ports operate are frequently seeing temperatures exceeding 40°C, due to humidity the apparent temperature can be above 50°C.

**We draw attention to the need for vessel operators and masters to**

- Have a heat management plan
- Adjust watches / more frequent change out of personnel/ work in teams
- Ensure crew are getting adequate rest/ hydration and time to cool down
- Ample change of clothes and laundry facilities

We recommend that operators have a training program to recognise the signs of heat related illness and how to respond to these.

Vessels coming into Varanus Island port shall have working Air Conditioning (AC).

It's a requirement of the port that all defects are reported, this includes AC.

Shore based Repair technicians for Air Conditioning are available and can be arranged with vessels agent. Early detection, reporting and rectification avoids unnecessary delays.

For more information

[https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/F\\_I/Heatwave-be-prepared-for-extreme-heat/Health-impacts](https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/F_I/Heatwave-be-prepared-for-extreme-heat/Health-impacts)

[https://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/atoms/files/working\\_safely\\_in\\_hot\\_conditions2020.pdf](https://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au/sites/default/files/atoms/files/working_safely_in_hot_conditions2020.pdf)

Capt. Mike Minogue  
**Harbour Master**