

Circular From NORTH**Date: 16 August 2017****UKMTO issues updated Bab El Mandeb Security Notice**

The UKMTO has released guidance notice 001/AUG/2017 regarding vessels transiting the Bab El Mandeb Straits and adjacent waters.

The notice draws attention to recent attacks on two vessels transiting Bab El Mandeb from the Gulf of Aden, where tankers were fired upon with small arms and rocket propelled grenades from multiple small skiffs. It reports that some of the skiffs involved were filled with explosives and during the attacks these explosives were detonated. On both these occasions the detonation was clear of the vessel being attacked; however it is assumed that the explosion was intended to be nearer to the vessel.

The notice highlights the importance of conducting a voyage risk assessment prior to entering high risk areas, and following the advice laid out in BMP4.

The UKMTO notice 001/AUG/2017 can be [read here](#).

North have produced a series of Loss Prevention Briefings relating to maritime security. These include a briefing on general security advice, and a regional specific briefing on the Western Indian Ocean area. These can be found here:

</insights/publications/loss-prevention-publications/loss-prevention-briefings/>

North in association with Gray Page also operates a Maritime Threats and Incidents page which can be viewed here:

</maritime-alerts/>

Members are reminded that they can also join the global members-only risk management platform CSO Alliance at reduced cost. CSO Alliance allows company security officer to share security related information and can prove a valuable tool when conducting voyage risk assessments. More information on CSO alliance and the Member discount can be found here:

</our-services/value-added-benefits/security/>

Source of Information: North of England P&I Club