



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594
Office of Marine Safety

Interview Summary

Meeting with: Captain Eppa "Dale" Wroten

Date/time: November 26, 2019 10:30 EST

Location: Lyon Shipyard, Norfolk, Virginia

Interviewed by: LT [REDACTED], USCG and Marcel L. Muise, NSTB

In attendance: Mr. Dan Stillman, counsel to City of Hampton – Party in interest

Case: DCA20FM004

- He holds at 100-ton license with towing and tankerman endorsements.
- He has had his license and has worked for Coastal since 2000.
- There were three barges on moorings.
- Each mooring had 60-feet of 1-inch cable with a 4-foot eye to hook on the barge.
- The mooring is located about 800 feet off the beach, and slightly north of the Salt Pond.
- The mooring has a 4500 to 5000 lb anchor.
- There's 120-feet of 1.5-inch chain secured to the mooring ball on a swivel.
- There's also a 12 to 15-foot loop of chain shackled to the mooring chain 15 feet below the ball.
- The shackle pin goes through the mooring chain (to the ball).
- The shackle is 1.5-inch 4-part, with a cotter pin, and the nut welded to the pin.
- The mooring was last inspected in August.
- They last used the YD71 on Thursday, 14Nov.
- They found a kink in the cable on 14Nov and decided to use the chain to secure the barge.
- The barge had worked next scheduled for 18Nov, on the Potomac below the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.
- The two other barges were on their mooring using the cable, not chain.
- The YD71 is 100 feet long, 45 foot beam, 8.5 or 9 foot depth and 4 foot draft.
- The bitts used were on the spud side.
- Both ends of the barge are raked.
- The tug used was the *Capt. Dale*.
- *Capt Dale* has a COI issued per Subchapter M.
- Coastal used the Coast Guard option instead of a TPO for Subchapter M compliance.
- Coastal has three tugs including the *Capt Dale*.
- They expected 30 mph winds with gusts to 45.
- The cable on the mooring is good for 60 mph winds.
- The mooring has a permit issued by VMRC and reviewed by the USCG.
- The water depth is 9 to 10 feet deep at the mooring, with a hard, sandy bottom.