



Operational Notice

No.13 of 2025 – Operation of Hoppers HG2/HG5/HST3/HST4 on Stormont and Gotto Wharf

Operational Notice No.2 of 2025 is now cancelled

The maximum volume to be loaded into these hoppers is **70 cubic metres**.

The peak height of any commodity **MUST NOT** exceed the fill line which is identified by the grid in the throat of the hopper and the base of the vertical screening when the grid is removed. Signage is present to provide a visual guide to the crane and hopper operators.

The following limits around commodity bulk densities must be always adhered to:

Bulk Density (T/ m ³)	Operation	Controls
Up to 1.2	Permissible	Existing Risk assessments and SOP's can be followed
1.2 – 1.5	Permissible	Depending on the bulk density of the commodity, the working level of the hopper will need to be reduced. New control measures will be agreed on a case-by-case basis*
Greater than 1.5	Not permissible	Not applicable

*A request must be submitted to Port Operations at least 24 hours prior to commencement of discharge.

The Hopper shall only be moved when empty. On Gotto Wharf, this can only be done when attached to a electric rail mounted crane (under the control of the Stevedore), and on Stormont Wharf only by members of BHC Operations Engineering team.

The use of a crane or grab to wash out these Hoppers is prohibited.

Washing out of the hoppers shall only be performed using freshwater in accordance with a recognised and approved Method Statement.

Any contact between the crane and/or the grab and Hoppers shall be notified **IMMEDIATELY** to Port Operations.

If the Stevedore becomes aware of any damage or any other issue that may impair the integrity of the Hopper, work shall cease **IMMEDIATELY** and Port Operations must be informed.

All other defects shall be reported within 24 hours. Breakdowns should continue to be reported to Port Operations (Tel: 028 90553504) between Mon – Fri 0800 – 1700 and to Belfast Harbour Police (Tel: 028 90553000) at all other times.

Enforcement

All personnel working with these hoppers (including supervisors, crane drivers, hopper operators, banksmen, and cleaners) **MUST** comply at all times with the requirements of this Operational Notice.

Any Personnel found to be in breach of the requirements of this Operational Notice depending on the seriousness of the breach and whether, or not, the individual has received a previous warning, will be subject to the following enforcement action, which will be issued to the Stevedoring Company/Employer:

- A recorded verbal warning notified to the Stevedoring Company/Employer.
- A written warning to Stevedoring Company/Employer regarding the individual and advising that a further breach will result in prohibition (either 1 month or permanent dependent on the case).
- A prohibition from using the relevant equipment for 1 month and evidence of re-training.
- Permanent prohibition from using the relevant equipment.

In each instance, notification of the breach in requirements will be communicated to the appropriate supervisor/ employer.

Movement of Hoppers on Quay's

Hoppers must only be moved by BHC Personnel. Any hopper moves should be requested through Port Operations (Tel: 028 90553504) between Mon – Fri 0800 – 1700 and to Belfast Harbour Police (Tel: 028 90553000) at all other times.

PORT OPERATIONS
BELFAST HARBOUR
01st June 2025



CAPTAIN K G Allen
HARBOUR MASTER