



The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway System
Le réseau Grands Lacs - Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent

2013 - NOTICE TO SHIPPING #16

**NIAGARA REGION
WELLAND CANAL**

VESSEL SELF-SPOTTING RADIO – LOCK 3

Mariners are advised that the Vessel Self Spotting Radio is now functional and ready for testing at Lock 3. Beginning **Thursday October 31, 2013**, Vessel Self Spotting Radio will be utilized for qualified vessels at Lock 3.

During the initial communication with an inbound vessel at L/A 2, the Spotter will inform the Master/ Pilot of the final mooring position. The Spotter will also advise the Master/ Pilot to rely on the VSS and the Vessel Self Spotting Radio messaging for positioning information. The radio system will transmit on Channel 17 Upbound and Channel 66 Downbound. The following are the two messages that the vessel will receive:

- The first message will be issued when the vessel is at 25m from its final mooring position: **“Lock 3, 25 meters to go, 25.”**
- The second message will be issued when the ship is at its final mooring position: **“Lock 3, In position, In position ”**
- **All vessels must verbally acknowledge the VSS Radio positioning messages, especially the second message, “In Position.”**

For non-qualified vessels, verbal instructions via the VHF radio will be provided as per established procedures.

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