

**ANNOUNCEMENT TO SHIPPING**  
**IJmond North Sea Canal Area**  
**Central Nautical Management**

Announcement No.: 65/2021

Amsterdam, 8 November 2021

Subject: Decree adopting the Combined Lockage Regulation for Zeesluis IJmuiden (the new sea lock)

The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area announces the following:

**Appendix 10 of the Working Agreement between Rijkswaterstaat and the Public Body Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area includes the Combined Lockage Regulation for the North Lock and Middle Lock at the IJmuiden North Sea Locks.**

**The new lock, Zeesluis IJmuiden, is expected to be put into operation in the first quarter of 2022. For this lock, too, a combined lockage regulation for ships with and without dangerous goods has been drawn up. The combined lockage regulation ensures that lock passages in which two or more ships are locked through simultaneously can be carried out safely, in an environmentally responsible manner, and as efficiently and smoothly as possible. Another objective of this regulation is to prevent or limit any nuisance or danger to shipping traffic during lock passages in which two or more ships are locked through simultaneously. This regulation also contributes to maintaining the function of Zeesluis IJmuiden as a flood defence structure.**

The reason seagoing and inland ships pass through the North Sea locks at IJmuiden is to enter the North Sea Canal and the ports in the North Sea Canal Area - the area of the Central Nautical Management (CNB) - for loading, unloading or repairing. All types of ships - with and without dangerous goods - pass through the locks. A combined lockage regulation for the North Lock and Middle Lock was drawn up on 19 December 2018 (see Notification No. 2018/012 of the Harbour Master's Division at [https://www.portofamsterdam.com/sites/default/files/2021-02/Samenschutten met binnenvaart 1 2.pdf](https://www.portofamsterdam.com/sites/default/files/2021-02/Samenschutten%20met%20binnenvaart%201%202.pdf)).

According to this Notification, a separate combined lockage regulation was planned to be drawn up for Zeesluis IJmuiden. A separate regulation was deemed necessary because, due to the larger dimensions of Zeesluis IJmuiden, the lock had more space which would create more possibilities for combining different ships with and without dangerous goods in the lock for simultaneous lock transit.

The question, from a safety point of view, was whether it would be possible to use the larger space in the lock for combined lock passages with ships loaded with and without dangerous goods.

For the drawing up of the combined lockage regulation, an external research agency was called in to investigate whether - from a safety point of view - the extra space could be used for this purpose. For the investigation, an information-led and risk-oriented approach was used. The results of the investigation showed that there were no probability-based arguments to decide against combined lock passages of ships carrying dangerous goods.

The report also indicated that the escalation risk:

- Could be excluded by prohibiting certain combinations of ship types; or
- Could be reduced by maintaining a minimum distance between certain ship types during the lockage process.

The combined lockage regulation for Zeesluis IJmuiden has been drawn up on the basis of this report.

The combined lockage regulation can be found at

<https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/announcement/decrees-adopting-combined-lockage-regulation-zeesluis-ijmuiden-new-sea-lock>

The combined lockage regulation for Zeesluis IJmuiden will be included in the next update of the working agreements between Rijkswaterstaat and the Central Nautical Management.

Between Rijkswaterstaat and the Central Nautical Management agreement has been reached on the amendment of the existing regulation.

The above-mentioned Decree can be found at:

[https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/view-decrees?term\\_node\\_tid\\_depth=138](https://www.portofamsterdam.com/en/view-decrees?term_node_tid_depth=138)

The Director of the Central Nautical Management North Sea Canal Area,



J.H.M. Mateyo