



Technical Bulletin

September 1, 2023

Mooring Line MBL critical to proper fuse sizing and safe operations

MoorGuard™ is the only product in the world that mitigates the danger of snapback for every port or pier regardless of size or location. It is designed to prevent excess tension in the mooring lines of large vessels. And, it is the only product that can instantly and inexpensively allow any port or terminal to comply with new 2024 IMO guidelines on occupational safety.

For maximum safety and value, it is critical the MoorGuard fuse be matched to the safe working load of the mooring line. A fuse should match 20-25% of the Certified MBL of the line it protects. Fuses rated higher or lower cannot provide proper protection or value.

RECENT PROBLEMS - Recently, some customers refused to document the MBL of a vessel's lines claiming the data was unavailable. As a result, they purchased a set of fuses that were too small.

Even though the fuses performed exactly as designed - providing enhanced operational safety - without proper MBL data the fuses had to be retired early resulting in less than maximum value for the customer and a dissatisfied customer experience.

SIZING ERROR - In the absence of actual MBL data a work around was attempted using the dead weight tonnage (DWT) of the vessel resulting in the customer purchasing a set of fuses that were too small for the application. Because vessels of the same DWT may have significantly different strength mooring lines only MBL data should be used for sizing decisions. Without this critical engineering data it is unsafe and impossible to size fuses properly.

Collecting the necessary data is simple and should be a standard safety practice at all ports. All vessels are required by law to have Test Certificates for every line on board. This information is easily obtained from any arriving vessel.

SUCCESSFUL DEPLOYMENTS - To prevent a reoccurrence of this situation, effective immediately, MoorGuard™ fuses will be sold only with proper engineering documentation.

All ports or terminals will be required to provide the average of three representative mooring line certificates, documenting the new rope MBL, from three different, representative vessels.

In the absence of this documentation, AkTiv Safety will not be able to make an accurate sizing recommendation and will not provide fuses for purchase or trial. Your local AkTiv Safety representative can assist you in securing the proper engineering data.