

### Pilot Ladder break aboard the M.T. Rio Daytona 30/1/13

Whilst disembarking the above vessel at approximately 1745 on the 30th January at Point Lynas in WSW 30-40Kt winds in a starboard lee one of the spreader steps collapsed during my descent into the pilot boat.

The spreader was approximately half way down the ladder which was approximately 3m long with the end 1.5m from the waterline. Thankfully the step collapsed when I had both hands on the sideropes and the vessel had been manoeuvred close inshore to gain a good lee.

Although I arrested myself mainly using my arms the end result was a jarred knee. No photo was taken as I needed to get myself into the cabin to take the weight off the right knee. I attach a rough sketch of the view of the ladder from the Launch after disembarking.

The ladder was in generally good condition and looked reasonably new. I consider the step was damaged during handling of ladder by deck crew at some stage and either not seen or ignored. The step failed under little weight. The damage could not have been seen by me or the launch prior to disembarking.

The vessel is now bound for Rotterdam whose pilots have been forewarned.

Regards

Andy Bissaker

1<sup>st</sup> Class Liverpool Pilot

