“Workboat Safety”

Workboats serve several important functions in the dredging industry. They are used as a work platform for servicing pipelines, cables and the dredge itself. The workboat is also commonly used for transporting miners and materials to and from the dredge. There are many hazards involved with operating a workboat which have the potential to cause life threatening injuries.

Best Practices:

- Operators must be properly task trained.
- All personnel must wear a lifejacket.
- Workboats must be in good operating condition and well maintained at all times (housekeeping).
- A paddle must be available in the event of an engine failure.
- Provide adequate lighting at the ramp and in the boat at all times.
- Secure and balance loads prior to operation.
- Provide safe workboat access from the shore and to the dredge.
- A fire extinguisher must be available on the workboat.
- Exercise extreme caution in severe weather conditions due to the dangers of lightning and wave action.
- Secure the workboat when docked.
- Establish communications when traveling to and from the dredge.

Developed in cooperation with:

*Rinker Materials Corp., Florida Sand Division, Davenport, FL. (Team Leader)*

*Grandin Sand, Florida Rock Industries, Grandin, FL.*