



# The Bulletin

The Newsletter of the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association

## Joint Industry Safety Committee Hosts Moorguard Mooring Lines “Fuse” Demo



Statistics have shown an increase in snapped mooring lines causing serious injuries and fatalities. In recent months there have been at least four reports of mooring lines snapping in British Columbia, luckily without injury.

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In response to this growing safety concern, the Joint Industry Safety Committee hosted a demonstration by Tom Fields of Aktiv Safety at the Mitchell Island Waterfront Training Center on January 22nd. Aktiv Safety is the manufacturer of Moorguard Safety Products, a fiber-based mooring solution that acts as a fuse for over-stressed lines. *(continued)*

We're looking for your good news stories to share! Please submit to Grace Sullivan: [gsullivan@bcmea.com](mailto:gsullivan@bcmea.com)

## ***JISC Hosts Moorguard Mooring Lines “Fuse” Demo (continued)***

In his presentation, Fields makes a compelling case for changes in the current approach to mooring line safety, pointing out that the mooring process has remained essentially the same for 30,000 years.

He went on to explain that mooring lines are routinely being overloaded far past their rated load, which has caused an increase in lines snapping. Recent trends toward larger and larger ships has led to a matching increase in mooring line size, which fails to address the problem of what happens when those lines break – and, as Fields commented, “All lines break, it’s just a question of when.”

Fields noted that ropes are unique in that they lack any sort of safety mechanism or overload response to protect workers in case of a catastrophic failure, and that there is no way to accurately test the actual strength of a line other than snapping it. He also cited the grim statistic that there is a one in seven chance of a fatality if a worker is struck by a parted line.



In response, he has designed a “Mooring Line Fuse”, a simple system that utilizes an innovative proprietary fiber that first stretches and then pulls apart when its load limit is exceeded, safely releasing all the tension out of the line and eliminates any possibility of snap back occurring. The other positive aspect of the fuse is decreased tension on the bollard, eliminating damage and the subsequent need for replacement. The product can be applied at either the ship or shore end, and can be constructed to a specified tonnage strength.

The session concluded with a demonstration of how a Moorguard fuse first stretches and then safely fragments to release tension slowly rather than by snapping.

Joint Industry Safety Committee Co-Chairs Kevin Jackson, BCMEA Manager, Safety Systems and Cliff Wellicome 3VP, ILWU Canada would like to thank the industry attendees for their interest in this innovative solution to a serious safety concern. For more information on the Moorguard product, please visit the company’s web site at [moorguard.com](http://moorguard.com), or contact Tom Fields at [sales@moorguard.com](mailto:sales@moorguard.com).

# Pinnacle signs 15-year wood pellet deal with Japan

[princegeorgecitizen.com](http://princegeorgecitizen.com)



B.C.-based wood pellet manufacturer Pinnacle Renewable Energy has signed a 15-year agreement to ship wood pellets to Japan for thermal power production.

Pinnacle, which has eight wood pellet manufacturing plants in Western Canada and one in the U.S., announced a deal in October, 2019 with Mitsui & Co. in Japan to supply 100,000 tonnes of wood pellets annually. The pellets, which are made from wood waste, are burned to produce power as an alternative to coal.

More recently, the company announced it had inked a deal with NYK Bulk & Projects Carriers to transport wood pellets to various ports in Japan via a new bulk carrier named New Pinnacle.

“This is a very exciting moment,” former B.C. Jobs, Trade and Technology Minister Bruce Ralston - who was shuffled this week to Energy and Mines - said at a signing ceremony January 16 in Japan. “Not only will the contract being signed today... provide clean energy fuel for Japan, but it also signals a strong future for B.C.’s forest products and the role Pinnacle Renewable Energy will play in providing sustainable energy solutions for the world.”

“In addition to developing great relations, great partners and great friends, this agreement signifies the importance of a growing Japanese market for reliable, stable, renewable energies,” Pinnacle CEO Rob McCurdy said in a press release.

Under the deal, NYK Bulk will transport wood pellets from B.C. ports to Japan on its new bulk carrier, the New Pinnacle. The new carrier will begin shipping up to 33,000 tonnes of wood pellets next year, starting in January 2021, making an average of six trips per year.

Pinnacle operates wood pellet manufacturing plants in Quesnel, Williams Lake, Houston, Hixon, Armstrong, Lavington and Burns Lake. The plants make wood pellets from wood waste from B.C. sawmills. Pinnacle has export terminals in Prince Rupert and Vancouver.

Since the announcement of the deal with Mitsui, Pinnacle’s shares have steadily climbed from a low of \$6.13 per share in mid-October to \$10.52 per share.

<https://www.princegeorgecitizen.com/news/local-news/pinnacle-signs-15-year-wood-pellet-deal-with-japan-1.24059684>

# Overpass proposed in Burnaby: \$145 million investment to support trade growth and improve safety and community access

*portvancouver.com*

Planning for a future overpass along Holdom Avenue over the rail line in Burnaby is officially underway, as the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority signed a memorandum of understanding with the City of Burnaby to guide the planning, design, and construction of a proposed Holdom overpass and closure of Douglas Road to vehicles at the rail crossing. This is the first of many steps, and the port authority, in partnership with the City of Burnaby, will undertake public engagement and Indigenous consultation for the project starting in spring 2020.

The Holdom overpass is part of the Burnaby Rail Corridor Improvements Project—a series of improvements identified as a priority for upgrades to improve the flow of trains to and from port terminals in North Vancouver. The port authority, CN, and the Government of Canada (through the National Trade Corridors Fund) are funding the \$145 million proposed project. Upon completion, the City of Burnaby will assume ownership of the overpass.

“Our role at the port authority is to make sure the Port of Vancouver can accommodate Canada’s growing trade, so we’re collaborating with government and industry to build infrastructure that will address both bottlenecks in the supply chain and the impacts of trade on local communities, such as commuter congestion,” said Cliff Stewart, vice president of infrastructure at the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority. “We are grateful to the Government of Canada and CN for their funding to support this project and to the City of Burnaby for their collaboration on this initiative.”

The proposed overpass will extend Holdom Avenue south over the rail tracks to connect to Douglas Road, providing a new north-south connection in a growing town centre. In addition to supporting national trade growth, the creation of the Holdom overpass will help achieve a long-term goal identified in the City of Burnaby’s transportation plans and has many potential benefits for residents in Burnaby, including walking and cycling amenities, more reliable travel times, and improved emergency response options and public safety.

“A new Holdom overpass would help connect our city and provide a more safe and reliable journey for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians,” said Burnaby Mayor Mike Hurley. “We are keen to work with the community and the port authority toward development of an overpass that meets both the multi-modal needs of travellers and the diverse requirements of area residents and businesses.”

Subject to final design approval and several conditions outlined in the memorandum of understanding, including public engagement and Indigenous consultation, the port authority, in partnership with the City of Burnaby, will work to ensure the design and construction of the overpass responds to the needs of the region and the local community. The first of three phases of public engagement will take place in spring-2020 and if approved, construction is anticipated to start in 2022.

Information about the project can be found online at [www.portvancouver.com/holdomoverpass](http://www.portvancouver.com/holdomoverpass). Residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up to the email newsletter list to receive updates on the project and hear about opportunities to learn more about the projects and provide feedback.

<https://www.portvancouver.com/news-and-media/news/overpass-proposed-in-burnaby-145-million-investment-to-support-trade-growth-and-improve-safety-and-community-access/>

# Industry News Links

## **Canadian Foundation launched to promote marine careers**

<https://www.maritimemag.com/news/1154-canadian-foundation-launched-to-promote-marine-careers-createdphur-limit>

## **Coronavirus outbreak: B.C., Canada likely to see economic impact as spread accelerates in China**

<https://biv.com/article/2020/01/coronavirus-outbreak-bc-canada-likely-see-economic-impact-spread-accelerates-china>

## **Commercial Shipping in Canada Needs a “Systems Approach” to Remain Safe, Competitive, and Sustainable**

<https://shippingmatters.ca/commercial-shipping-in-canada-needs-a-systems-approach-to-remain-safe-competitive-and-sustainable/>

## **Breaker, breaker: help wanted - A looming driver shortage casts a pall on the trucking industry.**

<https://theorca.ca/resident-pod/breaker-breaker-help-wanted/#what>

## **Feds to fund blockchain solutions for Canadian steel supply chain**

<https://www.canadianshipper.com/transportation-and-logistics/feds-to-fund-blockchain-solutions-for-canadian-steel-supply-chain/1003382551/>

## **Navis latest version of N4 TOS**

<https://www.porttechnology.org/news/navis-latest-version-of-n4-tos/>

## **IMO and WISTA to promote greater diversity in the maritime sector**

<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/WhatsNew/Pages/default.aspx>

## **THE Alliance unveils expanded service network for 2020**

<https://www.canadianshipper.com/transportation-and-logistics/the-alliance-unveils-expanded-service-network-for-2020/1003382473/>

## **IMO hails “relatively smooth” transition to new sulphur limit**

<https://www.maritimemag.com/news/1152-imo-hails-relatively-smooth-transition-to-new-sulphur-limit>

## **Free Safety Guide on Sea Container Storage**

<https://www.the-exporter.com/ne-Free-Safety-Guide-Sea-Container-Carriage>

## **2019 – a busy year for ICHCA**

<https://ichca.com/2019-a-busy-year-for-ichca>

## **2019 cargo volumes at Port Of Los Angeles at near-record levels**

<https://ajot.com/news/2019-cargo-volumes-at-port-of-los-angeles-at-near-record-levels>

## **Box manufacturers issue profit warnings as soft demand forces prices down**

<https://theloadstar.com/box-manufacturers-issue-profit-warnings-as-soft-demand-forces-prices-down/>

## **Technology could cut train crews from 2 to 1 but is it safe?**

<https://www.canadianshipper.com/transportation-and-logistics/technology-could-cut-train-crews-from-2-to-1-but-is-it-safe/1003382494/>

## **Clean Arctic Alliance: How Did Super Pollutant ‘Frankenstein’ Fuels Come to Market?**

<https://worldmaritimeneeds.com/archives/290043/clean-arctic-alliance-how-did-super-pollutant-frankenstein-fuels-come-to-market/>

# Tweet of the Week



**Port of Vancouver** ✓  
@PortVancouver



ICYMI: Port authority and @CityofBurnaby begin planning for new overpass in #Burnaby to reduce commute times and support trade growth [bit.ly /2U560es](https://bit.ly/2U560es)



# INDUSTRY EVENTS CALENDAR

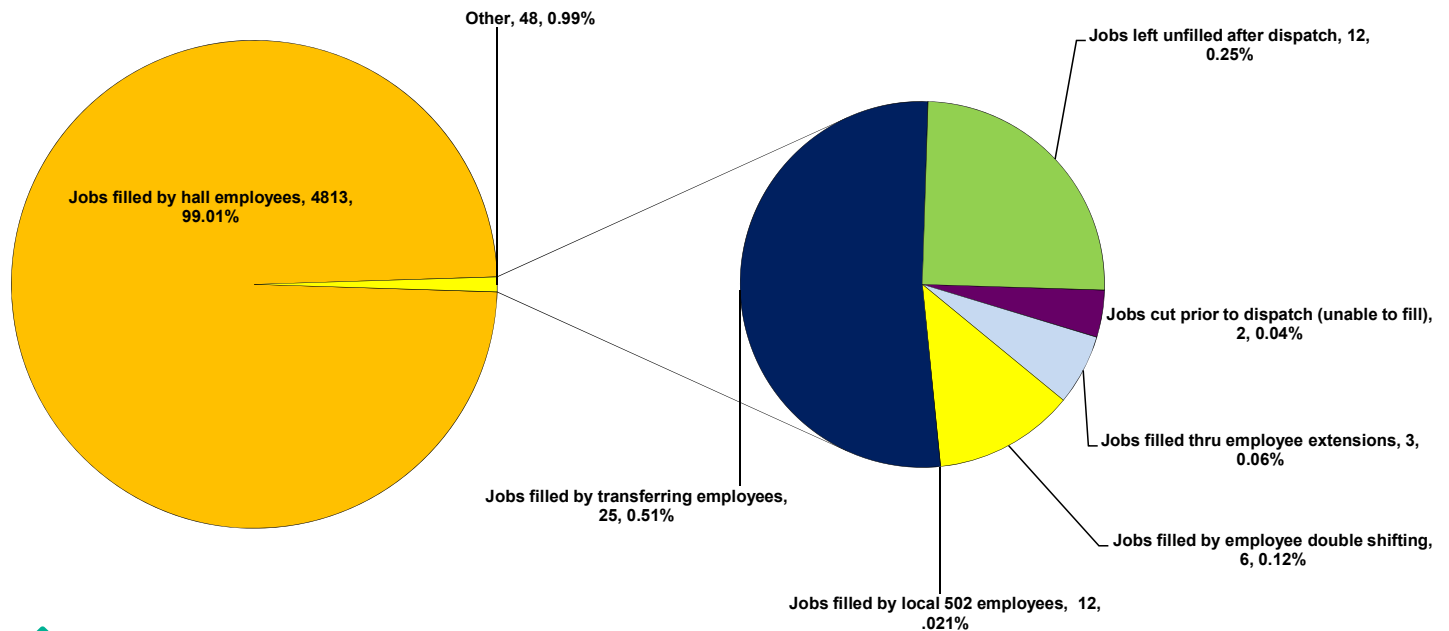
- Feb. 4-6, 2020      **Cargo Logistics Canada**  
Vancouver Convention Centre West  
Vancouver, BC  
<https://www.cargologisticscanada.com/en/home.html>
- March 1-4, 2020      **JOC TPM 20**  
Long Beach Convention Centre  
Long Beach, CA  
<https://www.joc-tpm.com/>
- March 24-25, 2020      **Container Terminal Automation Conference**  
Chelsea Harbour Hotel  
London, UK  
<https://ctac.events/>
- April 28-30, 2020      **Mari-Tech 2020 Conference and Exhibition**  
Vision, Innovation and Trending in the Marine Sector  
Halifax Convention Centre  
Halifax, NS  
<http://mari-techconference.ca/>
- May 12-14, 2020      **Canada Gas & LNG Exhibition & Conference**  
Vancouver Convention Centre  
Vancouver, BC  
<https://canadagaslng.com/>
- May 29-30, 2020      **TRUXPO**  
Tradex  
Abbotsford, BC  
<http://www.truxpo.com/>
- June 1-3, 2020      **2020 JOC Canada Trade Conference**  
InterContinental Toronto Centre  
Toronto, ON  
<https://www.joc-canada-trade.com/>

# Dispatch Shortage Statistics

For the Period Sunday January 19th, 2020 to Saturday January 25th, 2020

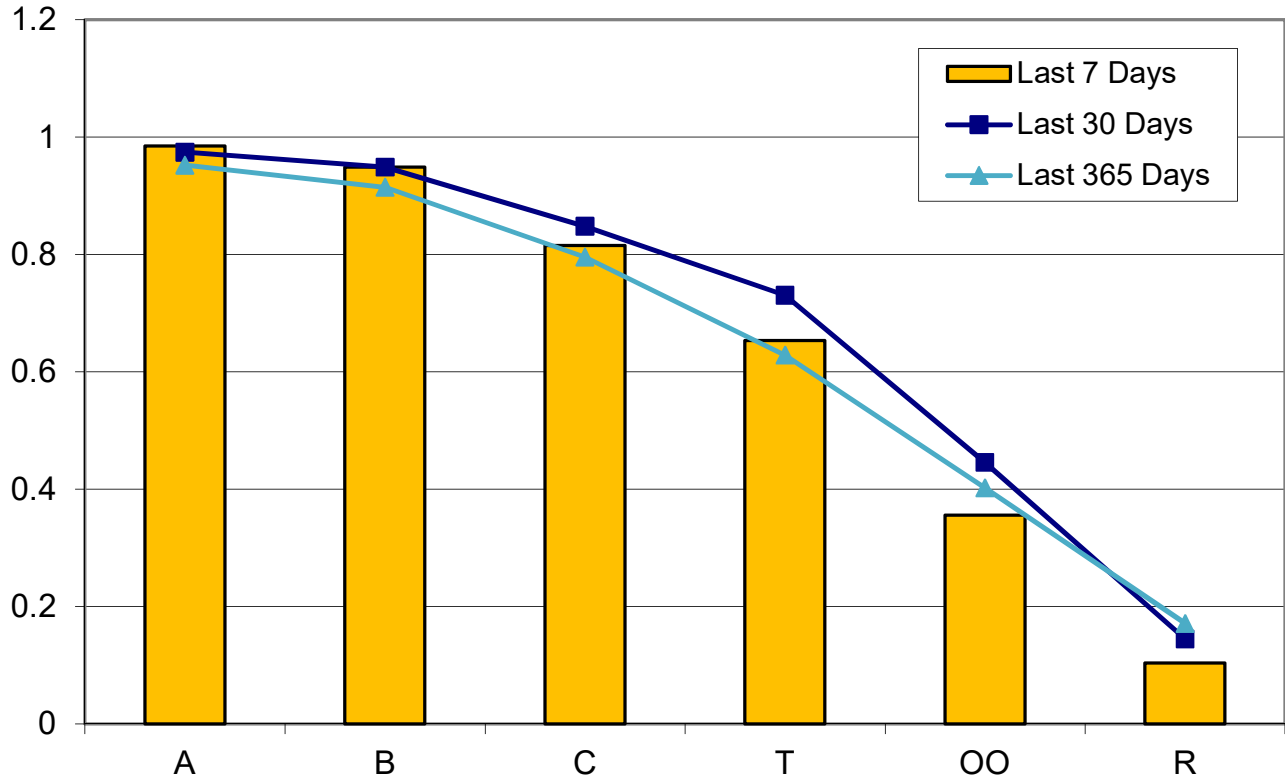
JOB	Jobs cut prior to dispatch (unable to fill)	Jobs filled thru employee extensions	Jobs filled by employee double shifting	Jobs filled by local 502 employees	Jobs filled by transferring employees	Jobs left unfilled after dispatch	TOTAL
BULK OPERATOR					1		1
CHECKER (DOCK)	1						1
DOCK GANTRY		3			3		6
DUMPER OPERATOR					1		1
H.D. MECHANIC						7	7
HATCH TENDER					3		3
HEAD CHKR					1		1
HT SIGNALS					1		1
LIQUID BULK					2		2
LOCIE ENGINEER			1		1		2
MEN - DOW			1				1
MILLWRIGHT			1			1	2
PLUMBER			1			1	2
RACK & S/HOIST					3		3
RUBBER TIRE GTY					5		5
SHIP GANTRY					2		2
SWITCHMAN	1				1		2
WELDER			2			3	5
WHEAT SPECIALTY					1		1
TOTAL	2	3	6		25	12	48

## How were shortages handled by Dispatch?





# Vancouver Casual Employee % Dispatched per Dispatch Board



## Future BCMEA Meeting Dates:

### Finance & Audit Committee Meeting

February 6th, 2020  
8:30am - 11:00am  
5th Floor Boardroom  
349 Railway Street

### Board of Directors Meeting

February 25th, 2020  
8:30am - 11:30am  
5th Floor Boardroom  
349 Railway Street

### Finance & Audit Committee Meeting

February 18th, 2020  
8:30am - 11:00am  
5th Floor Boardroom  
349 Railway Street



## Your Feedback:



Have something for the BCMEA Bulletin?

Send your comments or contributions to the Bulletin's Editor at:

[editor@bcmea.com](mailto:editor@bcmea.com)