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| Overview | This standard covers the competence required when planning and carrying out the loading and discharge of cargo other than bulk liquid.  **Target Group**  This standard applies to individuals at the operational level with responsibility for planning and carrying out the loading and discharging of non-liquid cargo in inland or coastal waters. |

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| **Performance criteria**  You must be able to: | 1. identify and assess the characteristics of the load to be moved, and determine correctly the relevant methods of loading/discharging the vessel 2. plan the loading/discharging operation, taking into account the characteristics of the vessel, berth and the load, including where relevant, the presence of any dangerous goods, the resources available, and the need to protect the local environment from potential pollution 3. identify any potential areas of uncertainty and prepare relevant contingencies to address these 4. identify the equipment required for loading/discharging the vessel 5. brief all concerned clearly and correctly on the actions to be taken, ensuring that everyone understands their role and the emphasis upon safety 6. communicate clearly, concisely and unambiguously 7. prepare correctly all necessary equipment, checking for damage and making good any faults before use 8. ensure that the vessel is positioned securely, with appropriate moorings which allow for any necessary adjustments during loading and discharge 9. operate equipment safely and according to operating instructions 10. ensure that required signalling and slinging are undertaken correctly and safely 11. carry out the loading/discharge operations according to the plan 12. monitor and maintain vessel stability throughout the loading/discharging operations 13. ensure that safe access to the vessel and cargo areas is maintained during loading and discharge 14. keep working areas free of all obstructions and hazards 15. shut down and secure correctly all equipment upon completion 16. notify relevant authorities of any damaged cargo 17. follow safe working procedures at all times |

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| Knowledge and understanding  You need to know and understand: | 1. organisation's procedures relating to the meeting of legislative and codes of practice requirements regarding the loading and discharge of cargo, other than bulk liquid, and the relevant sections of this legislation and codes of practice 2. the factors to take into account when planning the loading and discharging of loads to/from vessels, including safe mooring practices, and the need to protect the local environment from potential pollution 3. the importance of maintaining vessel stability when loading and discharging, including the typical problems associated with the movement of weight on a vessel, and how to address these 4. load handling and slinging methods, including the use of deck and other relevant equipment 5. the different classifications of dangerous goods 6. the importance of clear communication, and how to do this 7. vessel construction and operational characteristics relevant to loading and discharge operations 8. the correct terminology and use of instructions when loading and discharging vessels 9. procedures for reporting damaged cargo 10. procedures for dealing with emergencies when loading and discharging vessels |

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