

Unit V. Lesson II - Careers II

Harbor Pilots

A deep sea Captain handles his or her vessel in the open waters, they are not expected to have the depth of local knowledge necessary to safely enter a port. Almost every type of commercial traffic over a certain size is required to use the services of a Harbor Pilot, including tankers, tug and barge units, and cruise ships.

A harbor pilot captain is responsible for safely navigating vessels from the entrance channel of a port and back to the docks and back to sea. The pilot is an expert in the local knowledge of a particular port. including the aids to navigation (buoys and lights), hazards to navigation (wrecks, shallow spots, etc.), and local tides and currents. The pilot is responsible for safely meeting and passing traffic and maneuvering vessels to and from the docks, often with the use of tugboats. Pilots provide service in all but the most severe weather conditions, including thunderstorms, high winds and fog.

Note: Project Oceanography will be hosting at least one more oceanographic related career during this show. At the time of this writing, the additional person(s) remained unconfirmed. Join us for another exciting show about oceanography related careers!

