Gangway Safety Netting Notification

Please find below diagrams and instructions as to how gangways are to be deployed on the quayside. If the gangway is not deployed in this manner it is not safe and staff, agents or Pilots are not permitted to utilise the gangway as a means of access to the vessel.

At present there is no firm legislation or requirement regarding the correct rigging of gangway and accommodation ladder safety netting.

The International Harbour Masters’ Association is looking to develop a position statement to clarify the issue, as are the MCA, but in the meantime the following examples are to be deemed acceptable:

- Safety netting rigged from ship’s side, under the accommodation ladder and secured to outboard top rail

- Side netting rigged from top rail to side rail on both sides, fastened securely at top and bottom along the entire length.
In summary:

- All gangways and accommodation ladders should have side netting extending from top rail to bottom steps on both sides, securely fastened at the bottom along the entire length.
- An acceptable alternative is to have net rigged from ship’s deck, under gangway and secured to top of outboard rail.
- Top and bottom platforms should be netted in similar fashion, with all ropes being taut.
- If short brows are rigged, should be netted on both sides.

Solid-sided gangways and accommodation ladders do not require additional netting.