

MANOEUVRING TIPS *by Ballast*

THIS MONTH

This month we've given Ballast a well deserved break, however Pride of Rotterdam expert NathanC has stepped in to lend a hand.

1 As you are entering the Beneluxhaven keep the throttle on around 30% ahead. This will keep the ship at around 5/6 knots which is about the same speed the real ship enters. 5/6kn is required because lots of ships moor in this harbour, and high speed creates a wave which can easily break mooring ropes.

2 Make necessary adjustments to the helm to keep the ship dead centre in the narrow channel.

3 When your stern has passed the Selsey II on your portside, start to slow down as you approach the berth.

4 When you are in position, put your starboard propeller astern slightly and your bow thruster a touch to port. This will slowly start slowing you and swinging your stern towards the dock. The bow thruster will stop the bow swinging to starboard.

5 Keep making adjustments to the throttle and bow thruster to keep the bow still and the stern slowly swinging in.

6 When you are almost parallel to the berth, start "sidestepping" to port. This can be achieved by going slightly ahead on the port engine (e.g. 20%) and slightly astern with the starboard engine (20%). At the same time, place the bow thruster about 70% to port and the ship will then move sideways towards the pillars.

7 If you really are going for precision, once the ship is alongside touching the berth, you can line up the passenger and vehicle gangways with the side doors on the ship.

8 Once that is done, stop the engines and tie the ropes!



PICTURES OF THE PRIDE

