



# National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

## Safety Recommendation

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**Date:** April 28, 2014

**In reply refer to:** M-14-6 through -8

Jack Bevins  
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Seastreak LLC  
2 First Avenue  
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The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. The NTSB determines the probable cause of the accidents and issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, the NTSB carries out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinates the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge Seastreak LLC to take action on the safety recommendations being issued in this letter.

On April 8, 2014, the NTSB adopted its report concerning the allision of the passenger ferry *Seastreak Wall Street* with Pier 11 in lower Manhattan, New York City, on January 9, 2013.<sup>1</sup> Additional information about this accident and the resulting recommendations may be found in the report of the investigation, which can be accessed at our website, <http://www.nts.gov>, under report number DCA13MM005.

As a result of this investigation, the NTSB reclassified Safety Recommendations M-10-5, M-10-6, and M-12-3 and issued 10 new recommendations, including five to the United States Coast Guard, two to Scana Mar-El AS, and the following three recommendations to Seastreak:

### **M-14-6**

Work with Scana Mar-El AS to implement a modification to the Neptune Compact propulsion control system that includes clearly identifiable audible alerts and easily visible and understandable displays to remind the operator when backup mode is engaged.

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<sup>1</sup> *Allision of the Passenger Ferry Seastreak Wall Street with Pier 11, Lower Manhattan, New York, New York, January 9, 2013*, NTSB/MAR-14-1 (Washington, DC: National Transportation Safety Board, April 8, 2014).

**M-14-7**

Expedite implementation of a safety management system for your fleet that is appropriate for the characteristics, methods of operation, and nature of service of your vessels and the size of your operations.

**M-14-8**

Revise your operations and training manuals to include better utilization of crew and procedures for standard bridge operations, vessel emergencies, and control of passenger access to stairwells during docking and undocking.

These safety recommendations are derived from the NTSB's investigation and are consistent with the evidence we found and the analysis we performed. Chairman HERSMAN, Vice Chairman HART, and Members SUMWALT, ROSEKIND, and WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendation(s) by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to [correspondence@ntsb.gov](mailto:correspondence@ntsb.gov). If it exceeds 10 megabytes, including attachments, please e-mail us at the same address for instructions. Please do not submit both an electronic copy and a hard copy of the same response.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,  
Acting Chairman