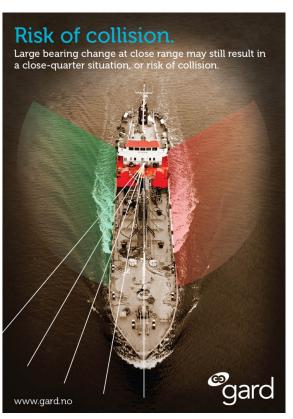




WOULD AN APPRECIABLE CHANGE IN BEARING BE ENOUGH?



Would an appreciable change in bearing be enough to assess the risk of collision?

When the risk of collision is assessed using a series of compass or radar bearings, it is important to understand its limitations, both at short and long range.

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As an example of short range assessments, a bearing change of 5 degrees at 2 nautical miles may still result in a close quarter situation as the closest point of approach (CPA) could be about 0.1 nautical mile (*A Guide to Collision Avoidance Rules* by A. Cockcroft, J. Lameijer, 7th Ed., 2017).

Mariners should therefore understand that a large change in the bearing at short range may give a misleading indication that a risk of collision no longer exists. Same is true for long ranges where an appreciable change of bearing may still result in a close quarter situation, if the other vessel is making small course alterations during the approach.

We therefore recommend using the radar and ARPA's target plotting together with visual/radar bearing for assessing the risk of collision.

For more information, see our

Insight Collisions at sea - Unavoidable?

Insight Collisions - Why do they occur?

Insight A collision that should have been avoided

Case study <u>Gard%20AS%20-</u> %20Case%20study%20no%2029%20Collision%20with%20fishing%20vessel.pdf

Alert Why wait until the last mile to avoid a collision?

Loss Prevention Posters Risk of collision <u>Low resolution gard poster10 + +Appreciable+bearing+change hires+%28ID+367607%29.pdf</u>

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