

When Should Officer on Watch (OOW) Call the Ship's Master?

The Officer on Watch (OOW) when on duty is in charge of the ship's navigation and safety. While navigating the ship, the officer in charge has to take independent decisions to ensure a smooth passage of the ship. However, every shipping company provides a list of situations, wherein the officer on watch must call the ship's master to the bridge to avoid any kind of danger for the ship.



- Danger to the ship because of traffic or movement of other ships
- Danger to ship or ship's stability because of heavy weather
- Malfunctioning of alarms or signalling equipment
- On encountering restricted visibility
- Difficulty in maintaining a proper course
- Breakdown of propulsion system, steering gear, or machinery
- Malfunctioning of radio equipment
- During manoeuvring
- On sighting land or navigation mark that can turn out to be dangerous
- Breakdown of essential navigational equipment
- On encountering navigational hazards such as rocks, icebergs, or shipwrecks
- Failure to sight land or navigation mark
- Sudden change in sounding or readings at inappropriate time
- On encountering suspicious ship or boat heading towards the ship
- On receiving emergency or important message from nearby port or ship
- On encountering any suspicious floating object in piracy affected area

If you want to know more, please scan the two-dimension code.

