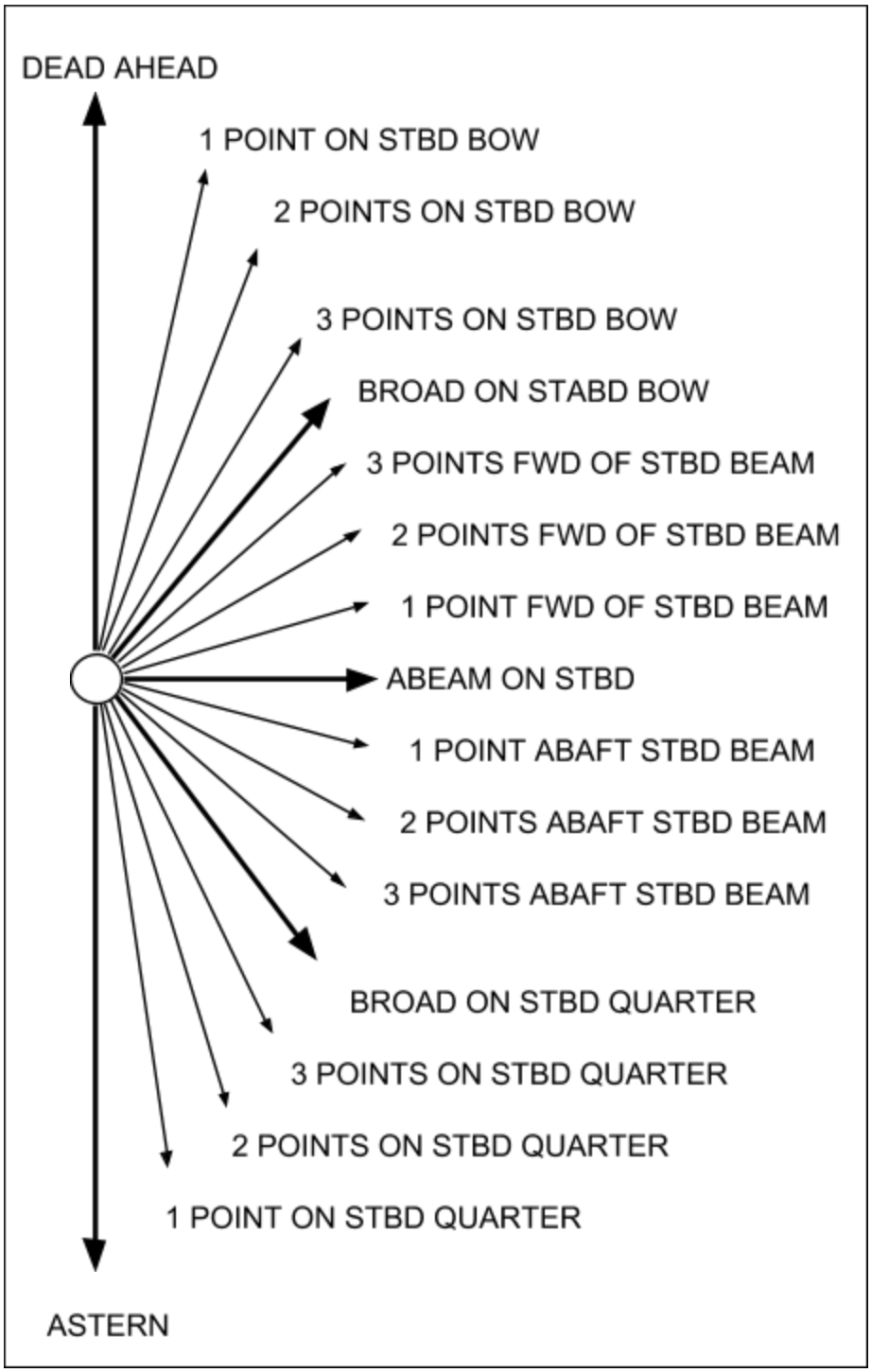
Standing Lookout

- As a lookout you will have no other duties.
- Do not get involved in protracted conversations or activity that can reduce your effectiveness as a lookout.
- Cell phone use, texting and web surfing while on duty are prohibited.
- Bow lookouts are responsible for detecting, by sight and/or by sound, other vessels, navigation aids, obstructions in the water, and lights or any other sightings.
- Report sightings to the Officer NOT the Helmsman!
- Even if you “know” the officer of the watch has seen it, REPORT IT ANYWAY.
- If uncertain or in doubt, report it to the officer
- Make sure the Officer on watch confirms your report



How to report:

- When reporting to the officer on watch, report **what, bearing,** and **estimated distance.**
- Use **hand signals** to report sightings to the quarter deck (you will be instructed on the different hand signals used onboard *Inland Seas).*
- If in doubt or unable to obtain the attention of the officer, walk aft to report the information.

By Day:

- **What:** Indicate sighting by hand signal.
- **Bearing:** Use outstretched arm to indicate direction
- **Estimated distance:** Hold up number of fingers equal to estimated distance in miles.

By Night:

- Walk aft and report information in person.

Example: "Flashing red light, 2 points on the port bow, range 3 miles.

Hint: *If you look down your outstretched arm, the width of your fist is equal to one point. You can use this to estimate how many points an object is off the bow, beam or stern*