

Marine Information Bulletin

Transition provision expiry – safety equipment

National Standard for Commercial Vessels, Part C Section 7A

Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to remind commercial and fishing vessel owners and operators that the transitional period for type and quantity of safety equipment, applied to legislation for the *National Standard for Commercial Vessels* (NSCV) expires on 1 June 2011.

Background

Amendments have been made to the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2004* (the Regulation) provided for the implementation of the safety equipment requirements of part C7A of the NSCV. These legislative changes became law on 1 June 2009.

From 1 June 2009, commercial and fishing ships must carry the appropriate safety equipment as required under the NSCV part C7A, or as required by the Regulation.

Unregistered fishing ships of less than 10 metres in length or class 4 (1F) hire and drive ships are not affected as the current safety equipment requirements for these ships has been retained.

Application

Commercial and fishing ships that qualified for the transitional arrangements apply to the NSCV part C7A as per the periods stated below.

The transition periods are:

- Two years to comply with type and quantity of items, such as life jackets, life jacket lights and flares as specified in chapter 5 of the NSCV part C7A (edition 3).
- Five years to comply with the quality of design, construction, installation and servicing requirements as specified in chapters 3, 4 and 6 of the NSCV C7A (Edition 3).

Replacement of irreparable equipment:

If during these transition periods an item of safety equipment either becomes irreparable, unserviceable or incapable of being restored to its original working condition, or has reached the end of its service life as stated by the manufacturer, it must be replaced with equipment complying with the NSCV part C7A.

After the expiry of this transition period on 1 June 2011 penalties may apply for not having the correct quantity of equipment or not having the correct type of equipment required for your area of operation. If you are unsure what is required for your vessel, please visit Maritime Safety Queensland's website under Safety or contact your local Maritime Safety Queensland regional office.

Information

For further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, email msgmail@msg.qld.gov.au.

Available on the website, located under the Safety section are some guides of required safety equipment for each vessel class.

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of ships can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website www.msg.qld.gov.au and from the following Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices:

Airlie Beach	(07) 4946 2200
Bundaberg	(07) 4131 8500
Cairns	(07) 4052 7400
Gladstone	(07) 4973 1200
Hervey Bay	(07) 4194 9600
Mackay	(07) 4944 3700
Mooloolaba	(07) 5477 8425
Pinkenba	(07) 3860 3500
Southport	(07) 5539 7300
Townsville	(07) 4726 3400