

Marine Information Bulletin

Mutual recognition and commercial licence changes – restricted certificates of competency

To comply with the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) direction to allow greater freedom of movement of licensed occupations under mutual recognition the following changes are being made.

Mutual recognition is a process where a licence from one state is recognised for use in other states.

These changes apply to individuals who hold restricted certificates of competency issued under the Uniform Shipping Laws Code.

Restricted certificates of competency have been issued in Queensland to meet the requirements of the maritime industry but they have not had the same degree of recognition in the other states as open certificates of competency.

An arrangement has been made between the states and Northern Territory that restricted certificates of competency will be recognised by other states to the extent that the laws of that state will allow.

Licences with restrictions to waters with specific geographic limitations will now be valid for all similar waters. For example:

- where a licence is restricted to specific smooth or inland waters, the licence will now be valid for all smooth and inland waters
- where a licence is restricted to specific partially smooth waters, it will now be valid in all partially smooth waters
- licences which are restricted to sailing ships operating within sailing schools will now be valid to operate all appropriate sailing ships
- restrictions for outboard power and daylight hours only will remain unaffected
- engineering licences restricted to the Queensland jurisdiction . The validity interstate will be subject to determination of the marine authority of that state or territory.

Some restricted certificates of competency are not capable of being recognised outside of Queensland. You should make enquiries of the marine authority of the state to which you will be going before attempting to use your restricted certificate of competency outside of Queensland.

Information

For further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, email msqmail@msq.qld.gov.au.

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of ships can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website www.msq.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