MARITIME TRANSPORT AND OFFSHORE FACILITIES SECURITY ACT 2003

Under this Act, operators of prescribed ship operations have particular security responsibilities, including assessing their own operations and having an approved ship security plan (SSP) in place.

1. Regulation of maritime security in Australia


2. Regulated Australian Ships

An Australian registered ship must have an approved SSP if it is either:

- a passenger ship that carries 13 or more passengers used for overseas voyages;
- a cargo ship of 500GT, or greater, used for overseas voyage;
- a mobile offshore drilling unit that is on an overseas voyage;
- a ship of a kind prescribed in the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Regulations 2003;
- a ship that is capable and used to carry both passengers and vehicles on inter-state voyages.

3. Regulated Foreign Ships

The ship operator of a regulated foreign ship must:

- have a valid International ship security certificate (ISSC), an approved equivalent or an ISSC exemption
- provide pre-arrival information to the Department of Home Affairs before arriving at an Australian port.

4. Ship Security Plan (SSP)

It is an offence for certain ships to operate without having an Australian Government approved SSP. The SSP must address the risks and vulnerabilities identified through the security assessment process and set out the security measures that will be implemented at different maritime security levels. Further information, templates and guidance materials are available on the Department of Home Affairs website.

5. More information

Commonwealth

For more information on offshore transport security, visit the Department of Home Affairs website or phone 1300 791 581 or + 61 2 6274 6992 (from outside Australia).

Major Projects Facilitation Agency

If you would like assistance to identify the regulatory obligations for your project, please visit our Online Tool or contact us:

Phone: 02 6243 7121
Email: contact@mpfa.gov.au

This fact sheet provides general information and does not constitute legal advice. You should seek independent legal advice tailored to your individual circumstances. The Major Projects Facilitation Agency (MPFA) assists Major Project Proponents to navigate the approvals process. The MPFA does not grant approvals, nor administer this Act or Regulations.