



Commonwealth Fact Sheet



MARINE SAFETY (DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL VESSEL) NATIONAL LAW ACT 2012

If your project involves the operation of a vessel for either a commercial, research or governmental activity within Australian waters, the vessels may be subject to the obligations in schedule 1 of the Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012 (the National Law).

1. What certificates do I need?

Unless an exemption applies, a domestic commercial vessel must generally:

- have a certificate of survey;
- have a certificate of operation;
- be crewed by persons holding the required certificate of competency; and
- have and display a unique vessel identifier.

The certificate of survey and certificate of operation are issued subject to conditions which the owner and master of the vessel must ensure are complied with. This includes ensuring that the vessel continues to carry the required safety equipment, is periodically surveyed by an accredited marine surveyor or recognised organisation, and is crewed by competent persons.

National Law certificates also need to be renewed, generally every five years.

2. Who regulates domestic commercial vessels?

Domestic commercial vessels operating in Australian waters are regulated by AMSA.

Marine incidents involving a domestic commercial vessel must be reported to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA).

3. How do I get National Law Approval?

Applications for a certificate of operation, certificate of survey and to obtain a unique vessel identifier can be submitted to AMSA by completing the [online form](#).

4. More Information

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For more information on the National Law, or to find an accredited marine surveyor, visit the AMSA [website](#) or contact AMSA Connect on 1800 627 484.

The [My Boat app](#) is available to help you determine relevant vessel equipment and construction requirements.

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@mpaa.gov.au