

GUIDANCE NOTE No: 44/2000

REVISION No: 3

Temporary Permits to Operate Commercial Air Cushion Vehicles (ACV) less than 12 Metres in Length

Applicants wishing to obtain a temporary permit for the operation of small ACV's are required to:-

1. Complete an application form;
2. Hold a valid Certificate of Competency as Coxswain;
3. Provide written verification of at least 50 hours experience and training on ACV's of which at least 10 hours must be on the type of ACV for which the permit is required;
4. Pass a practical and oral assessment based on the attached minimum standards;
5. Provide a copy of the operating manual;
6. Pay fees of \$83 (\$30 application fee, \$33 for the practical assessment plus \$20 for the issue of the permit).
Note: Fees include GST where applicable.
7. Pass an eyesight test within the last 2 years;
8. Hold a valid Shipboard Safety course certificate;
Please note that the fire-fighting and sea survival elements of a Shipboard Safety course must have been completed within the 5 years prior to the issue of the seafarers' first Temporary Permit.
9. Provide a copy of a valid Senior First Aid certificate;
10. Hold a radiotelephony certificate; and
11. Provide two (2) colour passport photographs.

A practical and oral assessment onboard the vessel will only be undertaken after Items 1-3 and 5-11 have been completed and provided to the Marine Safety Branch.

The permit will be valid initially for a maximum of 12 months for daylight operations only and may be revalidated for 12 month periods thereafter provided the eyesight test and senior first aid certificate remains valid. A revalidation fee of \$25 is applicable.

Any enquiries relating to the above should be directed to the Senior Nautical Officer, telephone 8924 7133.

Signed by: Sri Srinivas
Date Issued: 9 April 2008

For further information contact Marine Safety Branch:

2nd Floor, Energy House, 18-20 Cavenagh, Darwin NT 0800, GPO Box 2520, Darwin NT 0801

Telephone: 08 8924 7100, Facsimile: 08 8924 7009

Email: marinesafety@nt.gov.au

<http://www.nt.gov.au/dpi/>

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Specified minimum standard of competence for the Master of an Air Cushion Vehicle Less than 12 metres in length.

	Outcome	Methods for Demonstrating Competence	Standards for Evaluating Competence
1	ACV is prepared and ready for operation	Pre-operational checks undertaken and Engine(s) are started.	All pre-operational checks completed and engine(s) started in accordance with the operational manual for the type/make of ACV.
2	Passenger boarding procedure	Operator instructs passengers in all boarding & emergency procedures. Issue of Hearing protection/life jackets/helmets/hair nets etc.	Operator demonstrates that he/she is aware of all marine safety precautions and OH&S for passengers.
3	Pre-departure checks complete	Passengers are considered to be seated. Passengers clear of fans/propellers. Pre-start up checks. Engine(s) started.	Passengers seated as instructed by operator. Pre-departure checks are completed in accordance with operating manual.
4	ACV is manoeuvred safely at low speed	ACV is manoeuvred ahead at slow speed over land, stopped, turned 180 ⁰ then returned to original starting point. ACV is moved ahead at slow speed and turned through 90 ⁰ then another 90 ⁰ then returned to original starting point. Engines switched off.	Operator demonstrates that he/she is able to manoeuvre the ACV at slow speed, safely and under control at all times.
5	Manoeuvring the ACV	ACV is moved from shore to water allowing for leeway. ACV is steered on a straight course allowing for leeway. (a) at slow speed (b) at full speed ACV is manoeuvred at speed over figure-of-8 course. Changing course at speed. Rapid alteration of course through 180 ⁰ at speed returning on a reciprocal course. Re-establishing on the cushion. Returning to shore (through breakers) Manoeuvring ACV up sloping ramp/beach.	ACV is manoeuvred within view of assessor /or with assessor on board. Manoeuvres completed safely with full control of the ACV at all times.

	Outcome	Methods for Demonstrating Competence	Standards for Evaluating Competence
6	Dealing Practical/Theoretical with Emergency situations	Emergency Stop. Man Overboard procedures. Avoiding plough in. Manoeuvring at low speed off the cushion. Location of fire extinguishers etc. Use of bilge pumps. Any other emergency procedure appropriate to the type/make of ACV. Failure of lift engine during a turn. Failure of main propulsion engine during a turn. Failure of steering during a turn.	Manoeuvres completed within demonstrable limits imposed by the nature of the ACV and the environment and in accordance with recommended procedures contained in the operating manual.
7	Passengers are dis-embarked safely	ACV proceeds up the beach safely. Passengers remain seated until engine shut off. Passengers assisted to disembark. Lifejackets etc. returned.	ACV returns safely to shore/embarkation point, engines shut down and passengers safely disembarked.
8	The ACV is mechanically maintained for safe and reliable operation	Engineering Knowledge appropriate to the type/model of ACV.	Ability to supervise routine maintenance in accordance with technical manual. Ability to undertake minor adjustments and repairs to lift and propulsion engines.