

GUIDANCE NOTE No: 24/96

REVISION No: 6

Queensland Vessels – Requirements for Commercial Operation Subject to the Northern Territory Marine Act

A vessel is required to have a valid northern Territory Certificate of Survey otherwise the owner is in breach of the *Northern Territory Marine Act* and is open to prosecution. Detailed below are the requirements for recognition of Queensland certificates of survey for operations subject to the *Northern Territory Marine Act*.

1. Vessels with a valid Queensland “Certificate of Registration” or “Certificate of Survey”

(a) Queensland Certificate of Registration

Certificates of Registration are **not** recognised in the Northern Territory. The owner has two choices, if the vessel holds a Certificate of Registration:

- (i) the owner should ask a Queensland Government Accredited Surveyor to survey the vessel to the requirements of USL Code. The accredited surveyor will lodge the appropriate declaration with the Queensland Department of Transport in order that the owner can be issued with a Certificate of **Survey** by Queensland Transport. Any fees for survey, transportation and accommodation will be borne by the owner of the vessel.
- (ii) If the vessel is to be surveyed in Queensland the owner can approach the NT Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Marine Safety Branch and apply for Northern Territory Survey by filling out relevant application forms. All fees for survey plus transport and accommodation costs and \$88 per working hour, will be borne by the owner of the vessel. Surveys outside of the Northern Territory are subject to the availability of an NT surveyor.

(b) Queensland Certificate of Survey

Vessels with exemptions shown on a Certificate of Survey may not be accepted in NT. It is advised that approval of these exemptions must be obtained from the Marine Safety Branch, NT Department of Planning and Infrastructure, prior to purchase/transfer of vessels.

For example; some fixed fire extinguishing systems have been accepted by some States, but not approved. These systems will not be accepted by the NT.

Queensland certificates of survey that show shaft surveys as due or N/A will be required to have shaft surveys completed before recognition is granted.

Additionally vessels may need to:

- be fitted with a 406 MHz EPIRB to AS/NZS 4280. Expiry date of battery must be valid for period of survey and must be registered with AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue). 406 MHz beacon registration advice: Telephone: 1800 406 406 or (02) 6279 5766, Facsimile: (02) 6230 6868, Website: <http://beacons.amsa.gov.au/>; and
- have a radio fitted and the radio surveyed (which Queensland may **not** have asked for) prior to operating in Northern Territory waters.

Trading vessels under 7 metres **must** comply with Guidance Notes 4/94 and 7/94.

2. Vessels constructed in Queensland for Northern Territory operators

Owners have two alternatives:

EITHER:

- (a) Ensure that the builder/designer is accredited by Maritime Safety, Queensland Department of Transport (Ph: 07 312 073 64) and will obtain the appropriate Certificate of **Survey**. This Certificate of Survey will be generally recognised in the NT for the same class of operations. It will be in owner's interest to verify with the NT Marine Safety Branch the suitability of their vessel **prior** to finalising their purchase/transfer as restrictions on minimum length, area of operation etc. apply in Northern Territory.

Trading vessels under 7 metres **must** comply with Guidance Notes 4/94 and 7/94.

Vessels coming with exemptions shown on a Certificate of Survey may not be accepted in NT. It is advised that approval of these exemptions must be obtained from the Marine Safety Branch, NT Department of Planning and Infrastructure, prior to purchase/transfer of vessels.

OR:

- (b) Surveyors of the Northern Territory Marine Safety Branch can conduct surveys at Queensland boat yards. Prospective owners are advised to contact this office **before** building commences to enable plan approvals and finalising procedure for surveys, visits to Queensland etc to be finalised.

In addition to survey fees plus \$88 per working hour for time out of NT, all expenses for visits to Queensland including airfares, accommodation etc will be at the owners expense.

Vessels coming with exemptions shown on a Certificate of Survey may not be accepted in NT. It is advised that approval of these exemptions must be obtained from the Marine Safety Branch, NT Department of Planning and Infrastructure, prior to purchase/transfer of vessels.

Note: Fees include GST where applicable.

SAFETY MANNING

Fishing Vessels – are required to be manned in accordance with Section 3 of the Uniform Shipping Laws (USL) Code. (See Guidance Note No. 28/96).

Trading Vessels – owners need to apply to this office for a Determination of the Safety Manning level for the vessel prior to operating in Northern Territory Waters. Persons in charge of either the navigation watch and/or the machinery are required to hold the appropriate Certificate of Competency either issued or recognised by the Marine Safety Branch.

Signed by: Sri Srinivas
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For further information contact Marine Safety Branch:

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