Subject:

PSC Focused Inspection Program to be conducted by AMSA (The third stage)



No.: 412

Date: 26 July 2001

To Ship Owners and Ship Management Companies concerned

Please be kindly informed of the followings in relation to the recent status of the Port State Control (PSC) undertaken by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). The ship owners and ship management companies managing ships entering Australian ports are requested to pay due attention especially to routine maintenance of the relevant equipment and to management of personnel onboard.

As informed in NK Technical Information No. 388 of 25 December 2000 and No. 397 of 26 March 2001, the focused inspection regime has been implemented by AMSA in addition to their usual PSC activities. According to the Marine Notice 7/2001 attached hereto, the areas at the third part of the program, which will start on 1 August 2001 and run to 30 November 2001, are Crew Living Conditions and Compliance with STCW 95.

(Note) "AMSA Marine Notice" web site:

http://www.amsa.gov.au/amsa/mn/mn_index.htm

Attachments: AMSA Marine Notice 7/2001





7/2001

PORT STATE CONTROL — FOCUSED INSPECTION REGIME

The purpose of this notice is to draw attention to the implementation of the third stage of the enhanced inspection program announced by Marine Notice 13/2000 and progressed by Marine Notice 6/2001. The purpose of this program is to focus on six specific areas of vessel operations, which have been identified by AMSA as requiring special attention.

This program commenced in December 2000 and will run for two years. The focus of this enhanced inspection program will change every four months allowing the six areas to be addressed. This focus on specific areas will not detract from the normal coverage of AMSA's Port State Control activities.

In order to ensure adequate coverage, inspections concentrating on the selected area of interest alone will be conducted in addition to AMSA's programmed Port State Control inspections. These will take the form of unscheduled visits at a time to be determined by the local AMSA offices.

Due to problems identified during routine PSC inspections, and noting that the transitional provisions of the STCW 95 convention expire on the 1 February 2002, the third focused inspection program will address two topics; crew living conditions and compliance with STCW 95.

Crew Living Conditions: The focused inspection will examine areas identified under Marine Order Part 11 including:

- i. Crew accommodation, covering such issues as lighting, ventilation and insect/vermin infestation;
- ii. sanitary conditions and washing facilities;
- iii. galley and store rooms; and
- iv food stores and potable water.

Where deficiencies related to crew living conditions are noted during the focused inspection the ship will be required to take appropriate rectification action, as is the case with normal Port State Control activities. Should a deficiency be found which warrants detention, the vessel will be detained until the deficiencies have been rectified.

Compliance with STCW 95: Expiry of the transitional provisions of the STCW 95 Convention will bring into force new requirements for certification of officers and ratings on board ship as well as the associated mandatory training. In addition the convention contains requirements for hours of rest and fitness for duty. This area of the focussed inspection will ascertain the level of compliance of ships with the requirements of the STCW 95 Convention by examining, among other requirements:



- i. Whether the originals of all certificates are available on board:
- ii. Whether endorsements are in the correct format:
- iii. Whether all persons performing GMDSS radio duties are appropriately qualified;
- v. Whether tanker and passenger ship crew hold appropriate endorsements and/or documentary evidence of training; and
- vi. The arrangement of watch schedules and minimum rest periods.

Where deficiencies related to compliance with STCW 95 are noted a letter will be presented to the Master outlining the non-compliant areas and advising that these deficiencies may result in detention of the ship if found after 1 February 2002.

This third part of the program will run from 1 August 2001 until 30 November 2001.

C. Davidson
Chief Executive Officer
4 July 2001

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Term of Validity: Temporary