

## New crew induction

It is a requirement of vessel owners and masters that new crew members complete an Elements of Shipboard Safety (ESS) course within the first six months of joining a vessel. This course provides an overview of the aspects of working in the marine environment. ESS has a strong focus on emergency response training and survival techniques and forms the basis of all future marine training courses.

To provide a structured approach to new crew induction Maritime Safety Queensland has produced the Marine Safe Crew Induction Workbook. The workbook is designed to provide relevant underpinning knowledge enabling new crew to maintain professional standards onboard a vessel.

Copies of the workbook can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices.

The best place for crew, masters and engineers to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to deal with the realities of commercial vessel operations is onboard a vessel while at sea. The true test of competency is the effective application of essential skills and knowledge in a relevant workplace setting.

## What is expected of crew members?

### General safety obligation

Ultimately, it is the master's prime responsibility to ensure the safe operation of the ship, however no matter what a crew member's duties are onboard, they also have a legal obligation to make the day-to-day running of the vessel as safe as possible. This is known as the general safety obligation.

A crew member, as a minimum, must:

- be inducted onto the vessel
- know where the safety equipment is and how to use it
- acquire the correct skills to help operate the vessel.



**RADIO COURSES ONLINE**  
**MROCP & MROVCP**  
**FAST & SIMPLE**

[www.vhfradioonline.com](http://www.vhfradioonline.com)



SHIPWRIGHT SERVICES

Conveniently located at Rivergate Marina & Shipyard Brisbane we have access to world class facilities including large, clean and safe hardstand areas, 24 hour security, travel lifts accommodating vessels up to 300 tonnes and a variety of refit sheds.



Gateway Marine provide a variety of shipwright services, including but not limited to, composite and timber alterations, custom designing, refits, general maintenance, construction and repairs.



Believing in good old fashioned boat building service we like to work closely with our boat owners to ensure all requirements and budgets are met.



We pride ourselves by offering competitive rates and using personally sourced quality products to provide confident client satisfaction.

Unit 6 Rivergate Marina & Shipyard  
 17 Rivergate Place, Murarrie QLD 4170

P: +61 3890 7482 M: 0408 163 121

E: [gatewaymarine@internode.on.net](mailto:gatewaymarine@internode.on.net)

W: [gatewaymarine.com.au](http://gatewaymarine.com.au)

As a fundamental principle of the legislation, the general safety obligation transfers the responsibility for safety to owners and operators and encourages risk management. The Act imposes the general safety obligation on:

- ship builders, designers and surveyors about the condition of ships
- persons involved with the operation of a ship to operate it safely
- owners and masters about safety equipment.

All owners, masters and crew members must ensure the ship is:

- safe
- properly equipped and crewed
- operated in a safe manner.

In short, the general safety obligation prohibits a ship from going to sea if it is not properly built and maintained, equipped, crewed and operated in accordance with its proposed operating environment. Information about the general safety obligation is available on the Maritime Safety Queensland website at [www.msq.qld.gov.au](http://www.msq.qld.gov.au), under safety.

If a crew member, master or owner is found in breach of the general safety obligation they may be fined up to \$50,000 or imprisoned for one year. If the breach causes death or bodily harm to a person, the penalty could be as high as \$500,000 or imprisonment for two years.



The new Volvo Penta engine range covers 75 to 551 kW output. It offers reliability, performance and operating economy for all kinds of applications. Propulsion solutions, auxiliary power and complete genset systems are available for almost any type of boat or ship. Volvo Penta professional application support ensures every installation is optimised for its duty. Service and parts are available at specially trained service dealers worldwide.

## THE VOLVO COMMERCIAL RANGE

Call 07 3348 8787 or 0412 751 461 for your nearest Volvo Penta Dealer.  
Unit 5, Refit Complex 17 Rivergate Place Murarrie, Qld 4172



## Occupational health and safety

All workplaces, including in the maritime industry, are subject to occupational health and safety legislation to prevent or minimise a person's exposure to risk of death, injury or illness caused by a workplace, workplace activities or workplace plant and equipment.

The legislation imposes obligations on employers to ensure:

- the health and safety of themselves and each of the employees in the workplace
- work duties will not affect the health and safety of others.

It imposes obligations on employees to:

- comply with instructions given for workplace health and safety
- use personal protective equipment
- not interfere with or misuse anything provided for workplace health and safety
- not place at risk any person in the workplace
- not wilfully injure themselves.

These obligations represent a duty of care for all parties. This requires that everything reasonable and practicable is done by everybody at all levels to protect their health and safety in the workplace.

## Alcohol and drugs

Coordination, judgement, vision, balance and reaction time, when under the influence of alcohol or drugs, can decline up to three times faster on the water compared to on land. The motion of the vessel on the sea, engine noise and the weather on the water help to multiply their negative effects.

In an emergency, chances of survival are drastically reduced if under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In the water, loss of body heat and exhaustion happens faster and swimming ability deteriorates rapidly.



The master and crew members of a commercial vessel are required by law to have a blood alcohol level of zero for class 1 ships and under 0.05% for class 2 and 3 ships. In the State of Queensland any conviction of drink driving on land could result in the cancellation of your marine certificate as well as the loss of your driver license.

Crew members are not permitted to be under the influence of illegal substances. Also, crew members must consider the influence that prescription medications may have. For example, even medications such as hay fever or seasickness tablets can cause drowsiness. You must always check the side effects of medication that you have taken before going on duty.

When working on a commercial vessel, the lives of others depends on the sobriety of crew members. Crew members must be alert and sober.

## Fatigue

Fatigue is comparable with the effects of alcohol and drugs in terms of the safety of the ship and the crew. A relieving watchkeeper must have had 10 hours rest in the previous 24, six of which must have been continuous rest. If fatigue is suspected in a crew member, the master must be informed.

It is the responsibility of the watchkeeper being relieved to ensure the oncoming crew member is fit for duty. If the oncoming watchkeeper is not well rested, they won't be as alert as they need to be. This may result in an incident occurring because the master wasn't alerted to a navigational hazard.

Watchkeeping can also be a lonely job on a small ship — particularly at night. Many vessels are fitted with a 'deadman's switch' which is a device that sounds an alarm at stated intervals that the watchkeeper must cancel each time. If a watchkeeper feels fatigued, the master must be informed as it is the safety of the ship and all onboard that is at risk.

Fatigue will also affect performance of crew members working on the deck of a ship in a potentially dangerous environment. Deck machinery, slippery surfaces, hot liquids in the galley and the movement of the vessel in a seaway means that all crew members need to be alert at all times.



## QLD Maritime Training

**1300 656 188**  
www.widebay.tafe.qld.gov.au

### Wide Bay Institute of TAFE's Maritime programs include:

- Statement of Attainment (Elements of Shipboard Safety) (TDM10107)
- Certificate II in Transport and Distribution (Coastal Maritime Operations - Coxswain) (TDM20307)
- Certificate II in Transport and Distribution (Marine Engine Driving - Grade 3) (TDM20207)
- Certificate III in Transport and Distribution (Coast Maritime Operations - Master Class 5) (TDM30407)
- Certificate III in Transport and Distribution (Marine Engine Driving - Grade 2) (TDM30207)
- Certificate IV in Transport and Distribution (Marine Engine Driving - Grade 1) (TDM40207)

Quality Maritime Industry training delivered flexibly throughout Australia or on site at our Marine Campus in Bundaberg call 1300 656 188 for details



## Pollution

Whether a vessel is large or small, it is an offence to discharge garbage, oil and chemicals into Queensland waters (either deliberately or negligently) and severe penalties apply.

Crew members on a commercial vessel must:

- be vigilant for stray rubbish on deck
- comply with the onboard garbage management plan
- educate passengers and new crew members on the consequences of marine pollution.

## Oil and chemicals

Most oil and chemical pollution results from activities such as refuelling, boat maintenance and bilge discharges. Oils, including petrol, hydraulic oil and gear box oil and chemicals, such as degreasers and paints, contain a range of toxins harmful to both marine animals and humans.

Crew onboard commercial vessels need to help reduce oil and chemicals entering our waterways.

- Do not overfill the fuel tank.
- Watch the breathers for signs of blow-back or overflow.
- Ensure the bilges are clean before discharging them.
- Use phosphate-free biodegradable detergents.
- Carry absorbent materials onboard to clean up accidental spills.
- If oil or chemicals are accidentally spilled into the water, or if a spill is observed, contact the local Maritime Safety Queensland regional office, marina manager or port authority so that it can be contained and cleaned up as soon as possible.



**e-campus**  
AUSTRALIA

## Maritime Training

Flexible Delivery Remote Delivery  
On the job training Specialised Programs  
Oral preparations

### Australian Maritime Qualifications

Elements of shipboard safety

Coxswain - Certificate II

MED 3 - Certificate II

Master 5 - Certificate III

MED 2 - Certificate III

Master 4 - Certificate IV

MED 1 - Certificate IV



### International Maritime Qualifications

RIB Master

Master of Yachts

Coastal - 200GT

Limited - 200GT

Unlimited - 200GT



**MCA Approved & accepted in 26 countries**

### Recreational Marine Drivers Licence (to drive a speed boat)



**1300 787 599**

[www.ecampusaustralia.qld.edu.au](http://www.ecampusaustralia.qld.edu.au)



## What to do in the event of a fuel spill

Scenario: a deckhand is refuelling at the fuel wharf and operating as part of a team. The fuel tank breathers are blocked and about ten litres of diesel blows back and out onto the deck of the ship. The freeing ports in the bulwarks of the ship are not closed and it enters the water. What should be done?

- Contain the spill using the emergency containment kit on the fuel dock.
- Ensure no further spillage is possible from the vessel or the dock.
- Notify the regional harbour master as soon as possible.
- Ensure that no source of ignition is possible — keep fire-fighting appliances on hand.
- Don't use detergents or dispersants on the spill.

## AMI Marine is distributing the world's leading Environmental Products...

Quality Marine Toilets, Sewage Treatment and Sanitation accessories:

**TECMA**



**ECOmar**

We can tailor **Sanitation & Sewage solutions** for you  
Maritime Safety Queensland Compliant (Grade A,B & C)



**Marine & Offshore Excellence**

Distributing the World's Leading Marine Products...

For further information on our Environmental Products visit

[www.amisales.com.au](http://www.amisales.com.au) or contact our branches:

PERTH (08) 9331 0000 | SYDNEY (02) 9816 7100

BRISBANE (07) 5540 6800 | ADELAIDE (08) 8341 2055

SINGAPORE +65 6775 0081 | VIETNAM +84 64 3513345

[www.amisales.com.au](http://www.amisales.com.au)