

Marine Information Bulletin

Servicing of fire safety appliances on commercial vessels

Background

Currently the authorised servicing of fire safety appliances must be carried out by individuals who hold the relevant Building Services Authority (BSA) licence.

Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) has consulted with the BSA to clarify the training and licensing requirements for competent crew to service fire safety appliances. As a consequence of discussion, the BSA has supported the proposal to allow appropriately trained crew to service fire safety appliances, subject to the conditions outlined below.

Servicing requirements

MSQ will accept the testing and inspection of fire safety appliances by crew as follows:

- Crew members assigned to perform the fire safety appliance inspection and testing complete the relevant training under the National Training Framework (NTF) as detailed in the attached table.
- Evidence of satisfactory completion of these training programs is retained on board as part of the ship's safety management documentation.
- The inspection and testing of fire safety appliances by competent crew members is at all times within the scope of training completed under the NTF.
- Competent crew members may only inspect and test fire safety appliances on commercial ships owned and operated by their employer.
- The ship's fire safety appliances and systems/ installations are serviced and maintained annually by a BSA licensed contractor, in addition to the interim test and inspection regime carried out by competent crew members and the relevant records retained on board as part of the ship's safety management documentation.

MSQ accepts that should an emergent situation develop at sea, competent crew members may be called upon to affect minor maintenance or temporary repairs in an effort to ensure the appropriate operation of fire safety equipment pending return to port and the immediate and full attention of a licensed contractor.

Information

For further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, email msgmail@msg.qld.gov.au.

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of vessels can be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website www.msg.qld.gov.au and from the following Maritime Safety Queensland regional offices:

Airlie Beach	(07) 4946 2200
Bundaberg	(07) 4131 8500
Cairns	(07) 4052 7400
Gladstone	(07) 4973 1200
Hervey Bay	(07) 4194 9600
Mackay	(07) 4944 3700
Mooloolaba	(07) 5477 8425
Pinkenba	(07) 3860 3500
Southport	(07) 5539 7300
Townsville	(07) 4726 3400

Fire Safety Appliance/Installation	Activity	Approved National Training Course
Portable Fire Equipment and Hose Reels (Hose Reels Down Stream of Stop Cock ONLY) Occupational	Inspect and test	Certificate II in Asset Maintenance (Fire Protection Equipment) PRM20406 including successful completion of the following competency units: 1. Service Portable Fire Extinguishers and Fire Blankets in the Field (PRMPFES09B) 2. Inspect, Test and Replace Fire Hose Reels in the Field (PRMPFES10B) 3. Install Portable Fire Extinguishers, Fire Blankets and Battery Powered Smoke Alarms (PRMPFES11B)
Fire Hydrants and Hose Reels - Occupational	Inspect and test	Certificate II in Asset Maintenance (Fire Protection Equipment) PRM20406 including successful completion of the following competency units: 1. Inspect and Maintain Fire Hydrants (PRMPFES37A)
Passive Fire Protection – Fire Doors and Shutters Occupational	Inspect and test	Certificate II in Asset Maintenance (Fire Protection Equipment) PRM20406 including successful completion of the following competency units: 1. Identify Fire and Smoke Doors (PRMPFES33A) 2. Inspect and Test Hinged Fire and Smoke Doors (PRMPFES35A)
Fire Pumps - Occupational	Inspect and test	Successful completion of both of the following “ stand alone ” competency units: 1. Install Water Pump Sets (CPCPWT3005A) 2. Test Fire Protection Systems for Pressure (CPCPFS3005A)
Fire Detection, Alarm and Warning Systems - Occupational	Inspection And test	Certificate II in Asset Maintenance (Fire Protection Equipment) PRM20406 including successful completion of the following competency units; or Certificate II in Fire Alarm Servicing(UEE21005) and Accreditation from the Fire Protection Industry Board for the following: 1. Category MAE – Certification of maintenance of fire detection and alarm systems; 2. Category MAF – Certification of maintenance of emergency warning and intercommunications systems; or 3. Possession of an Electrical Mechanic Licence
Sprinkler and Suppression Systems (Reticulated Water Based) - Occupational	Inspect and test	Certificate IV in Fire Systems Compliance (Hydrants, Sprinklers and Pump Sets) (30536QLD)
Special Hazard Suppression System - Occupational	Inspect and test	Certificate III in Asset Maintenance (Fire Protection Equipment) PRM30406 including successful completion of the following competency units: 1. Inspect and Maintain Portable Foam Generating Equipment (PRMPFES24B) 2. Inspect, Test and Maintain Pre-engineered Aqueous Fire Suppression Systems (PRMPFES27B) 3. Inspect, Test and Maintain Pre-engineered Water Mist Fire Suppression Systems (PRMPFES31B)