

Marine Information Bulletin

CHANGES TO THE USL CODE – UPDATE 1

PURPOSE

This bulletin has been raised to inform Accredited Persons about:

1. Further information regarding the application of Amendment List 6,
2. Progress of Amendment List 7,
3. An amendment to NSCV Part C4 (Fire Safety),
4. The National Marine Safety Committee (NMSC) computer program to assist calculation of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels (NSCV) C4 – Fire Safety requirements for a ship, and
5. ISO Standard Workshop for Construction Standards.

1. Further Information Regarding the Application of Amendment List 6

Maritime Safety Queensland provided advice at the Lloyd's Rules Training in November 2008 that the use of the USL Code 2008 is triggered by:

1. New ships,
2. Existing ships subject to initial survey (being ships which are investigated and verified for the first time as meeting prescribed standards), and
3. Existing ships applying for a change in service category.

During this training, concerns were raised by Accredited Persons regarding possible risk situations that are not captured by the triggers above. As a result, Maritime Safety Queensland determined a fourth risk situation where the application of the revised standard (USL Code 2008) is warranted.

Please be advised that it is Maritime Safety Queensland policy that the use of the USL Code 2008 will also be triggered in the following situation:

4. Existing ships not seeking a change in service category but completing "further building" which involves any new risks, or increases the risks to persons or the ship compared to the risks that were present prior to alteration. Examples of "increased risks" are explained in section 4.11 of the NMSC Guideline – *"The application of the combined USL/NSCV 2008 to existing vessels that are upgraded or altered."*
http://www.nmsc.gov.au/legislated_standards_2008.html

The Accredited Persons Guidance Manual has been updated to reflect the four triggers for the use of USL Code 2008. The new addition will be mailed to you in the near future.

The flow chart attached to this MIB may assist to determine the correct version of the USL Code to apply.

Marine Information Bulletin

Owners/operators have the option of proposing a performance based / equivalent solution as an alternative to the prescriptive requirements of the USL Code 2008. A performance based approach to meeting the requirements must be verified and documented as outlined in the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety – Designing and Building Commercial Ships and Fishing Ships) Standard 2006*.

2. Progress of Amendment List 7

The November NMSC meeting confirmed that Amendment List 7 has been signed off by the Australian Transport Council (ATC) and will commence on **1 October 2009**. NSCV sections that will be introduced through Amendment List 7 include:

- NSCV C3 - Construction,
- NSCV C6 - Stability,
- NSCV C7A - Medical Supplies,
- NSCV C7A - Emergency Lighting (hand held),
- NSCV C7B - Communications Equipment
- NSCV C7C - Navigation Equipment,
- NSCV C7D - Anchoring and Mooring Equipment, and
- NSCV E - Operational Practices.

3. An Amendment to NSCV Part C4 (Fire Safety)

The NSCV Part C4 (Fire Safety) was amended on 7 November 2008. The Amendment note is attached for your reference.

4. NMSC Standards Assistants NSCV C4 – Fire Safety requirements for a ship,

A Standards Assistant is available for NSCV C4 – Fire Safety. Standards Assistants are developed by the NMSC and provide a ready means of ascertaining applicable clauses within a standard. They are intended to be used in conjunction with the relevant standard and do not replace the standard. The output must be referenced and checked against the requirements of the standard.

The Standard Assistant for NSCV C4 – Fire Safety is found at - <http://www.nmsc.gov.au/StandardsAssistant.html>.

Marine Information Bulletin

5. ISO Standard Workshop for Construction Standards

The NMSC, through its relationship with Standards Australia, has participated in the ISO committee on Small Craft for a number of years and has invited that committee to meet in Australia. Earlier this year, the ISO committee accepted the Australian offer and will meet at the Gold Coast International Hotel in Surfers Paradise from 18 to 21 May 2009, which is the week leading up to the weekend of the Sanctuary Cove International Boat Show.

A training workshop for designers/surveyors from Marine Safety Agencies on the practical application of the ISO 12215 suite of standards will be held on Friday 22 May, in parallel with the Summit. Two of the leading experts in the working group that developed the standards will lead this workshop. The ISO 12215 suite of standards is referenced in NSCV Section C3 as an alternative to using the Lloyds SSC Rules.

The designers /surveyors workshop will be run on a cost recovery basis. The fee per participant will be of the order of \$300, based on 40 participants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

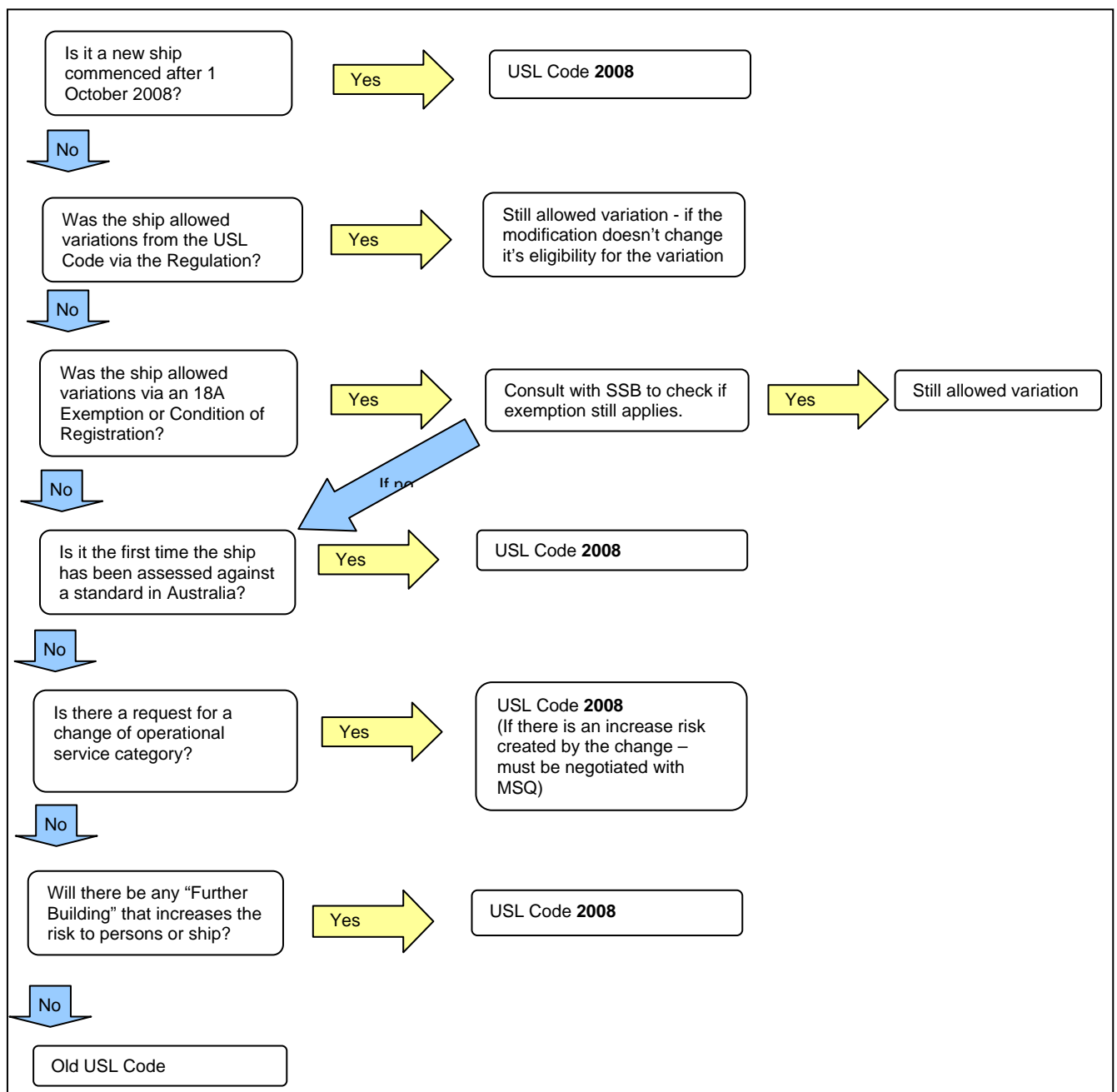
If you require further information about this Marine Information Bulletin, please contact: 07 3120 7341 or msqmail@msq.qld.gov.au.

Other Marine Information Bulletins covering various topics relating to the safe operation of ships may be obtained from Maritime Safety Queensland's website at www.msq.qld.gov.au and from the following Marine Operations Centres.

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

Marine Information Bulletin

Flow Chart for the Application of USL Code or USL Code 2008 for Issuing Certificates of Compliance



**Amendment No 1
to the
National Standard for Commercial Vessels
Part C; Design and Construction
Section 4; Fire Safety
(Edition 1)**

Revised Text

Edition 1 of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels, Part C; Design and Construction, Section 4; Fire Safety as first published in April 2005, is amended as follows.

The amendment was approved by the National Marine Safety Committee on 15 July 2008, and published on 27 October 2008 for information purposes only, pending final ATC endorsement. The amendment was endorsed by the ATC on 7 November 2008 and comes into effect from that date.

Summary

This amendment applies to Clause 1.10 and Tables 2, 4, 12, 17, 19, 43, 47 and 53.

AMDT No.1 27 Oct 08	Page 22 – Table 2 In the second row of columns 2 to 6 of Table 2, <i>delete</i> the word “Class”.
AMDT No.1 27 Oct 08	Page 22 – Table 2 In the KEY to Table 2 <i>insert</i> before each reference to “Marine Order 15” the words “the requirements specified in” and <i>insert</i> after each reference to “Marine Order 15” the words “for SOLAS ships”.
AMDT No.1 27 Oct 08	Page 28 – Clause 1.10 In the DEFINITION HEADINGS <i>replace</i> “FPT Code” by “FTP Code”.
AMDT No.1 27 Oct 08	Page 30 – Table 4 In the KEY to Table 4 <i>insert</i> before the reference to “Marine Orders Part 15” the words “the requirements specified in” and <i>insert</i> after the reference to “Marine Orders Part 15 Construction—Fire protection, fire detection and fire extinction” the words “for SOLAS ships”.
AMDT No.1 27 Oct 08	Page 45 – Table 12 In the second column of Table 12, <i>replace</i> the words “Applies to vessels carrying more than 450 day passengers” with “Applies to vessels carrying more than 450 passengers”.

AMDT

No.1

27 Oct 08

Page 48 – Table 17

In the KEY to Table 17, *replace* the words “Clause 4.7.6.3.1 specifies equivalent minimum flow rates for nozzles other than single orifice type of 12 mm diameter or more” with “(1) Clause 4.7.6.3.1 specifies equivalent minimum flow rates for nozzles other than single orifice type of 12 mm diameter or more”

AMDT

No.1

27 Oct 08

Page 50 – Table 19

In the third line of (B) in the KEY to Table 19, *replace* the words “fire hydrant appliances” with “fire hose appliances.”

AMDT

No.1

27 Oct 08

Page 97 – Table 43

In the third column of Table 43, *delete* the word “NOTE:”.

AMDT

No.1

27 Oct 08

Page 101 – Table 47

In the KEY to Table 47, *renumber* (2) and (3) to become (1) and (2) as follows:

- (1) The fitting of an aqueous *fixed fire-extinguishing system* is not required under Clause 8.20 on vessels of *Fire Risk Category* I, II, or III. However, optional fitting of such systems allows a reduction in *fire-restricting materials* on vessels of *Fire Risk Category* II and III.
- (2) See also Clause 3.6.

AMDT

No.1

27 Oct 08

Page 111 – Table 53

Replace Table 53 with the following table:

Table 53 — Aqueous *fixed fire-extinguishing systems* for *Accommodation spaces* on *Fire Risk Category IV* vessels

Application	Requirement for aqueous fixed fire-extinguishing system
Operational areas A or B carrying 201 to 450 day passengers	Manual or automatic activation
Operational areas C, D or E carrying 37 or more berthed passengers	Automatic activation