

Marine information Bulletin

Safety equipment and registration requirements for tenders to Queensland regulated ships

May 2021

Purpose

This Marine Information Bulletin clarifies safety equipment and registration requirements for tenders to Queensland regulated ships.

What is a tender?

A tender is a ship that is not a lifeboat, is 6m or less in length and is smaller than the parent ship.

It can only be used to transport people or provisions between the ship and shore or ship to ship.

Registration

Tenders to Queensland regulated ships are exempt from registration if they are only used within 2 nautical miles (nm) of the parent ship.

Refer to Table 1 for more information.

Safety equipment

A registerable tender may be required to carry lifejackets and other safety equipment stipulated under the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2016*.

Table 2 is a list of safety equipment to be carried on board the tender.

Signalling and lighting

All tenders operating between sunset and sunrise must be equipped with navigation lights and a lighting device for signalling to attract attention.

Recommended miscellaneous equipment

It is recommended that all tenders carry the miscellaneous equipment outlined in Table 2 to meet their general safety obligation.

Compliance with the general safety obligation

Operators of all ships including tenders are required to comply with the general safety obligation as per the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994*.

The owner/master of a ship must not operate the ship unless the ship is safe. A ship is safe if it is seaworthy and is appropriately equipped and crewed for the voyage.

Further information

For further information contact your local Maritime Safety Queensland office:

Airlie Beach	4841 4500
Bundaberg	4132 6600
Cairns	4052 7400
Gladstone	4971 5200
Hervey Bay	4194 9600
Mackay	4944 3700
Mooloolaba	5373 2310
Brisbane	3632 7500
Gold Coast	5585 1810
Townsville	4421 8100

Other Marine Information Bulletins about the safe operation of ships are on Maritime Safety Queensland's website: www.msq.qld.gov.au

Table 1 – Registration requirements for 6m or less tenders to Queensland regulated ships

Engine Power	Operating radius from parent ship	Requires registration?
less than 3 kW	any distance	No
3 kW or more	less than 2 nautical miles* (nm) (3.7km)	No
	2nm (3.7km) or more	Yes

*The tender must be marked on the exterior with the word 'tender' and the parent ship registration number, at least 75mm high.

Table 2 – Safety and miscellaneous equipment for tenders to Queensland regulated ships

Item	Smooth Waters		Partially smooth waters		Beyond partially smooth waters	
	Requires Registration	Not requiring Registration	Requires Registration	Not requiring Registration	Requires Registration	Not requiring Registration
	Required	Recommended	Required	Recommended	Required	Recommended
	At least 'Level 50S (special purpose)'	At least 'Level 50S (special purpose)'	At least 'Level 50'	At least 'Level 50'	At least 'Level 100'	At least 'Level 100'
	PWC: Level 50 or level 50S	PWC: Level 50 or level 50S	PWC: Level 50 only	PWC: Level 50 only	PWC: Level 50 only	PWC: Level 50 only
Lifejacket for each person on board	Not required when the tender has a positive flotation statement and is operating either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 1km of the parent ship • In a river, creek, stream, or the waters contained within breakwater or revetments and is equipped with grab lines, grab rails, or other permanent means of giving each person on board a way of keeping a secure hold to the tender. 				Not required when the tender has a positive flotation statement and is operating within 500m of the parent ship.	
Signalling device when operating between sunset and sunrise	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
	For example, a torch, lantern, fluorescent light, or cyalume stick.					
Navigation Lights when operating between sunset and sunrise	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required	Required
V Sheet			Required	Recommended	Required	Recommended

