



Queensland Government

Maritime Safety Queensland

MARINE INFORMATION BULLETIN

**The Implementation of
National Standard for Commercial Vessels
Part C – DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
Section 3 – Construction
Section 6A – Intact stability requirements
Section 6C – Stability tests and stability information
Section 7D – Anchoring systems**

PURPOSE

- This bulletin has been raised to bring to your attention the publication by the National Marine Safety Committee (NMSC) and the implementation in Queensland of four new sections of Part C – Design and Construction of the *National Standard for Commercial Vessels* (NSCV):
 - NSCV C Section 3 – Construction*
 - NSCV C Section 6A – Intact stability requirements*
 - NSCV C Section 6C – Stability tests and stability information*
 - NSCV C Section 7D – Anchoring systems*

BACKGROUND

- The *National Standard for Commercial Vessels* is being developed to replace the *Uniform Shipping Laws* (USL) code.
- After endorsement by the Australian Transport Council (ATC) on the 29 February these four new sections of the NSCV were published by the NMSC in April 2008.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION AND STABILITY STANDARDS

- The construction and stability standards are automatically recognised for use in Queensland under the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety—Designing and Building Commercial Ships and Fishing Ships) Standard 2006* once these standards are endorsed by the ATC and published by the NMSC.
- So in Queensland, the new standards may be applied immediately to the design and building of new ships, alterations to existing ships or the replacement of part of a ship if the alteration or replacement may affect marine safety.

- In other states, the new standards will apply from the date these new sections are inserted into the existing USL Code. This will occur on 10 October 2008. From that date onwards, all jurisdictions have agreed to no longer accept new approvals based on the superseded sections of the USL Code.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANCHORING SYSTEMS STANDARD

- The *Transport Operations (Marine Safety – Commercial Ships and Fishing Ships Miscellaneous Equipment) Standard 2006* requires that a commercial or fishing ship should be equipped in accordance with the USL code sections 12, 13 and 18.
- The miscellaneous equipment standard also provides an alternative in that a ship may be equipped to provide a level of safety at least equivalent to the level of safety under the USL code.
- Maritime Safety Queensland deems that compliance with the requirements of *NSCV C Section 7D Anchoring systems* provides a level of safety related to anchoring systems at least as equivalent to the level of safety provided under the USL code.

PHASE OUT OF USL CODE SECTIONS

- Table 1 lists the sections of the USL code that are replaced by the recently endorsed and published sections of the NSCV.
- The design and building of ships in accordance with the replaced USL code sections listed in table 1 is to be phased out by October 2009 when the USL code will be amended to repeal the use of those sections.

Table 1 – USL Code sections replaced by NSCV

NSCV	Section of USL code replaced
NSCV C Section 3 – Construction	Section 5A, 5B, 5G, 5H, 5K, 5L and the part of section 5M that covers vessels built from plywood
NSCV C Section 6A – Intact stability	Section 8 - Stability 8A Preliminary 8B - Simplified presentation of stability 8C - Stability criteria.
NSCV C Section 6C – Stability tests and stability information	Section 8: Stability 8A: Preliminary 8B: Simplified Presentation of Stability 8C: Stability Criteria
NSCV C Section 7D – Anchoring systems	Section 13 - Miscellaneous equipment Appendix H - Anchors and cables Appendix I - Sea Anchors.

AVAILABILITY

- Published parts of the NSCV are available on the NMSC's website at www.nmsc.gov.au.

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		