



Commonwealth Fact Sheet



NAVIGATION ACT 2012

Vessels in Australia being used for any commercial, government or research activity must be compliant with Australian standards and regulations for maritime safety and protection of the sea.

1. What does the legislation cover?

Australia's maritime safety and protection of the sea laws implement international and national standards. These relate to:

- ship construction,
- equipment,
- crew and vessel safety and
- seafarer employment.

There are also international and domestic regulations and standards you must follow to protect the environment from shipping-related pollution when operating in Australian coastal waters.

Domestic commercial vessels operating in the marine environment must comply with applicable safety requirements, regular vessel surveys, permits and certificates of operation.

2. Who is the regulator?

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is empowered by the *Navigation Act 2012* to make subordinate legislation called Marine Orders which provide detailed compliance requirements.

For more detailed information on requirements, see the Navigation Act 2012 and [Marine Orders](#).

AMSA is a flag State administrator and is responsible for making sure Australian-owned and Australian-registered ships comply with international conventions in Australian waters and overseas.

AMSA has delegated certain survey and certification functions to [Recognised Organisations](#). Each of these organisations may certify vessels under the marine order applicable.

While in an Australian port, your ship may be subject to inspection. If your ship is found to have deficiencies, it may be detained until the issue is resolved.

3. More information

Commonwealth

For more information, visit the Australian Maritime Safety Authority [website](#), or contact [AMSA Connect on 1800 627 484](#).

A list of [legislation](#) administered by AMSA is available.

Major Projects Facilitation Agency

If you would like assistance to identify the regulatory obligations for your project, please visit our [Online Tool](#) or contact us:

Email: mpfa@industry.gov.au