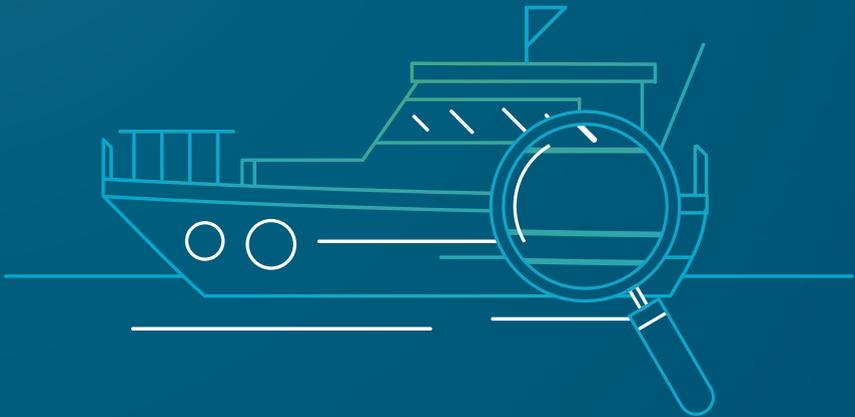




Australian Government
Australian Maritime Safety Authority



NATIONAL MARITIME SYSTEM



 **The new survey
requirements for domestic
commercial vessels**

One system to navigate.

AMSA.GOV.AU

On **1 July 2018** new survey requirements for domestic commercial vessels (DCVs) commenced.

By aligning survey requirements with risk, the survey reforms ensure safety is maintained and compliance costs are reduced.

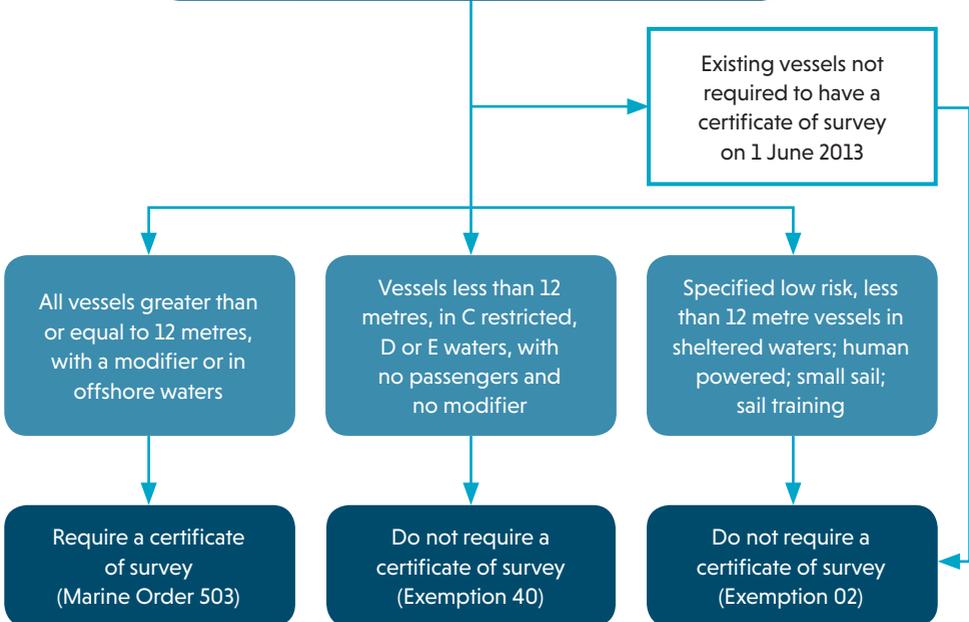
Key changes are:

- fewer vessels less than 12 metres operating in sheltered waters will need a certificate of survey
- C restricted vessels may carry up to 12 crew or special personnel in specified C restricted areas
- reduced survey frequency for vessels in survey.

VESSEL USE CATEGORIES	
Class	Vessel Use
1	Passenger – 13 or more passengers
2	Non-passenger – up to 12 passengers
3	Fishing
4	Hire and drive

AREAS OF OPERATION	
Area	Operation
A	Unlimited domestic
B extended	Extended offshore
B	Offshore
C	Restricted offshore
C restricted	Restricted offshore – specific areas
D	Partially smooth water
E	Smooth water

Overview of the new survey requirements



The new survey frequency categories

Vessels required to hold a certificate of survey have a new survey frequency category – shown in the following table.

VESSELS	SURVEY FREQUENCY					
	Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
CATEGORY – HIGH						
Class 1 Class 2A/2B extended/2B with passengers Vessel with steam propulsion/submersible or wing-in-ground effect craft/novel vessel/high speed thrill ride vessel	Initial survey	In water survey	In water survey	Out of water survey		Renewal survey (in water and out of water)
CATEGORY – MEDIUM						
Class 2A/2B extended/2B no passengers Class 3A/3B extended/3B Class 2C/3C/4C/4D/4E greater than or equal to 12 metres Class 2D/2E greater than or equal to 12 metres with passengers All vessels with a modifier (high risk operations or attributes, including an inboard petrol engine, being used for towing, carrying dangerous goods, overnight hire and drive, landing barges or fast craft)	Initial survey			In water survey		Renewal survey (in water and out of water)
CATEGORY – LOW						
Class 2C/3C/4C/4D/4E less than 12 metres no modifier Class 2D/2E no passengers, no modifier Class 2D/2E less than 12 metres with passengers, no modifier Class 3D/3E no modifier Class 2 ferry in chains Class 2/3 permanently moored vessel Class 2/3 unpowered barge	Initial survey					Renewal survey (in water and out of water)

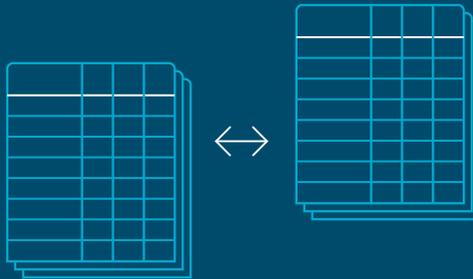
Class requirements

Vessels greater than or equal to 35 metres, must be built and surveyed to meet the requirements of a recognised organisation for the construction, machinery, anchoring equipment and electrical installation aspects of the vessel. This does not apply to existing and transitional vessels which were not previously in class survey.

Further changes to the class requirements will commence in mid-2020 and allow:

- vessels less than 45 metres to undergo initial and periodic surveys by an accredited marine surveyor, and
- vessels less than 65 metres to undergo periodic surveys by an accredited marine surveyor.

For more information go to www.amsa.gov.au



NSAMS comparison tables

The following tables compare the survey requirements under the National Standard for Administration of Marine Safety Section 4 (NSAMS 4), which no longer applies, with the new survey requirement that came into effect on 1 July 2018.

Previous requirements

NSAMS 4 survey level 1

NSAMS 4 survey level 1 requirements

Year 0

Initial survey

Year 1

In water survey

Year 2

In water survey

Year 3

In and out of water survey

Year 4

In water survey

Year 5

Renewal in and out of water survey

Class 1

Class 2A

Class 2B > 7.5 metres

Class 2C > 7.5 metres

High risk class 2C < 7.5 metres

High risk class 2D < 7.5 metres

High risk class 2E < 7.5 metres

Class 3A

Class 3B extended and 3B

Class 3C > 7.5 metres

Unpowered barges of high risk

Ferries in chains

New requirements

MO503 survey frequency high

Class 1

Class 2A with passengers

Class 2B extended with passengers

Class 2B with passengers

Vessels with steam propulsion

Submersibles

Wing-in-ground effect craft

Novel vessels

High speed thrill ride vessels

MO503 survey category high requirements

Year 0

Initial survey

Year 1

In water survey

Year 2

In water survey

Year 3

Out of water survey

Year 4

No survey

Year 5

Renewal in and out of water survey

Previous requirements

NSAMS 4 survey level 2

NSAMS 4 survey level 2 requirements

Year 0

Initial survey

Year 1

No survey

Year 2

No survey

Year 3

In and out of water survey

Year 4

No survey

Year 5

Renewal in and out of water survey

Class 2C < 7.5 metres with passengers

Class 2D with passengers

Class 2E with passengers

Class 4C

Class 4D with overnight passengers

Class 4E with overnight passengers

New requirements

MO503 survey frequency medium

Class 2A with no passengers

Class 2B extended with no passengers

Class 2B with no passengers

Class 3A, 3B extended and 3B

Class 2C \geq 12 metres

Class 2C with a modifier

Class 2D with a modifier

Class 2E with a modifier

Class 3C \geq 12 metres

Class 2D \geq 12 metres with a passenger

Class 2E \geq 12 metres with a passenger

Class 4C, 4D and 4E \geq 12 metres

Class 4C, 4D and 4E with a modifier

Class 3C, 3D and 3E with a modifier

MO503 survey category medium requirements

Year 0

Initial survey

Year 1

No survey

Year 2

No survey

Year 3

In water survey

Year 4

No survey

Year 5

Renewal in and out of water survey

Previous requirements

NSAMS 4 survey level 3

NSAMS 4 survey level 3 requirements

Year 0
Initial survey

Year 1
No survey

Year 2
No survey

Year 3
No survey

Year 4
No survey

Year 5
No survey

Class 2C < 7.5 metres with no passengers

Class 2D > 7.5 metres with no passengers

Class 2E > 7.5 metres with no passengers

Class 3C < 7.5 metres

Class 3D > 7.5 metres

Class 3E > 7.5 metres

Class 4D > 7.5 metres no overnight passengers

Class 4E > 7.5 metres no overnight passengers

New requirements

MO503 survey frequency low

Class 2C < 12 metres no modifier

Class 2D < 12 metres passengers, no modifier

Class 2E < 12 metres passengers, no modifier

Class 2D no passengers and no modifier

Class 2E no passengers and no modifier

Class 3C < 12 metres no modifier

Class 3D no modifier

Class 3E no modifier

Class 4C < 12 metres no modifier

Class 4D and 4E < 12 metres no modifier

Class 2 ferry in chains

Class 2 and 3 permanently moored

Class 2 and 3 unpowered barge no modifier

MO503 survey category low requirements

Year 0

Initial survey

Year 1

No survey

Year 2

No survey

Year 3

No survey

Year 4

No survey

Year 5

Renewal in and out of water survey



AMSA.GOV.AU

