



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Maritime Safety Authority**

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AMSA EX07

**Marine Safety (Temporary operations) Exemption 2024**

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I, Michael Kinley, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (the National Marine Safety Regulator under section 9 of the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law*), make this instrument under subsection 143(1) of the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law*.

27 September 2024

**Michael Kinley**  
Chief Executive Officer

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## Division 1 Preliminary

### 1 Name of instrument

This instrument is *Marine Safety (Temporary operations) Exemption 2024*.

### 2 Duration

This instrument commences on 1 March 2025 and ceases to have effect at the end of 28 February 2030.

### 3 Repeal

*Marine Safety (Temporary operations) Exemption 2020* made on 29 June 2020 is repealed.

### 4 Definitions and interpretation

(1) In this instrument:

**accredited marine surveyor** means a person who is accredited under section 24 of the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Regulation 2013* in the following categories of surveying:

- (a) for the survey of a vessel that is not required to have a load line certificate — periodic survey (**category L**);
- (b) for the survey of a vessel that must have a load line certificate but not a certificate of survey — periodic survey—load line (**category N**);
- (c) for the survey of a vessel that must have a certificate of survey and a load line certificate — category L and category N.

*Note* The list of accredited marine surveyors is available on the AMSA website at <http://www.amsa.gov.au>. For the list of categories of survey — see section 21 of the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Regulation 2013*.

**initial survey** has the same meaning as in Marine Order 503.

**load line certificate** means a certificate issued under section 5 of *Marine Order 507 (Load line certificates — national law) 2018*.

**Marine Order 503** means *Marine Order 503 (Certificates of survey — national law) 2018*.

**Marine Order 507** means *Marine Order 507 (Load line certificates — national law) 2018*.

**Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law** — see Schedule 1 to the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012*.

*Note* **National Regulator** is defined in the *Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law* — see section 6.

**national law** means the Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law set out in Schedule 1 to the National Law Act.

**periodic survey** has the same meaning as in Marine Order 503.

**renewal survey** has the same meaning as in Marine Order 503.

**sea trial** means a trial, test or demonstration, at sea, of the seaworthiness or any other operational aspect of a vessel or its equipment.

(2) An approval given under *Marine Safety (Temporary operations) Exemption 2019* that is in effect is taken to be an approval given under this instrument.

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## **Division 2 Temporary operations — operation without certificates, transitional vessels and minor non-conformances**

### **5 Exemption — operation without certificates**

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel is exempt from the requirement to have a certificate of survey, a certificate of operation and any requirement to have a load line certificate, for a period if:
  - (a) an application for approval for operation without the certificates is made to the National Regulator in the approved form; and
  - (b) the National Regulator approves in writing the operation of the vessel without the certificates for the period.
- (2) The exemption commences on the day the National Regulator gives the approval and ends on the earlier of the following:
  - (a) the day specified in the approval;
  - (b) 90 days after it commences.
- (3) The National Regulator may, in writing, give an approval if satisfied that approval is:
  - (a) to enable the building, disposing of, fitting out, relocating, removing or repair of the vessel; or
  - (b) to enable the vessel to be moved to obtain the certificate or to return the vessel after the initial survey or other process has been completed; or
  - (c) for another temporary use.
- (4) The National Regulator may give the approval subject to conditions.

### **6 Exemption — transitional vessels and non-compliance with standards**

- (1) If a change mentioned in Schedule 1 of Marine Order 503 occurs and subsections (2), (3) and (4) are met, a domestic commercial vessel is exempt from compliance with the following:
  - (a) subsection 7(6) of Marine Order 503 to the extent it would otherwise apply to a non-conformance mentioned in subsection (3); and
  - (b) paragraph 11(1)(h) of Marine Order 503.
- (2) An application for approval is made to the National Regulator in the approved form.
- (3) An accredited marine surveyor, or another person permitted under Marine Order 503 to conduct vessel surveys, has:
  - (a) conducted an initial or renewal survey of the vessel as applicable; and
  - (b) considered that the vessel and its equipment comply with the standards that apply to the vessel to the extent that only a non-conformance is identified that will not jeopardise the safety of the vessel or any person on board; and
  - (c) given the owner and the National Regulator a copy of each signed survey report that:
    - (i) identifies each non-conformance and the standard that the non-conformance relates to; and

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- (ii) identifies the maximum period of each non-conformance that is no longer than 12 months; and
    - (iii) contains a statement that none of the non-conformances have previously been identified as non-conformances for the operation of this exemption.
  - (4) The National Regulator has given an approval in writing that is carried on board the vessel at all times.
  - (5) The exemption:
    - (a) commences on the day the National Regulator approves the vessel operating subject to this exemption; and
    - (b) ends on the day specified in the approval.

*Note* A vessel subject to this exemption may be eligible for the issue of a new certificate of survey on a temporary basis following application. The duration of any new certificate of survey will be related to the period mentioned in paragraph (5)(b).

## **7 Exemption — minor non-conformances identified during initial or renewal survey**

- (1) If subsections (2), (3) and (4) are met, a domestic commercial vessel is exempt from compliance with the following requirements to the extent each paragraph requires a vessel to meet a specified standard:
  - (a) paragraph 9(2)(a) of Marine Order 503; and
  - (b) paragraph 11(1)(f) of Marine Order 503.
- (2) An application for approval is made to the National Regulator in the approved form.
- (3) An accredited marine surveyor, or another person permitted under Marine Order 503 to conduct vessel surveys, has:
  - (a) conducted an initial or renewal survey of the vessel as applicable; and
  - (b) considered that the vessel and its equipment comply with the standards that apply to the vessel to the extent that only minor non-conformances are identified that will not jeopardise the safety of the vessel or any person on board; and
  - (c) given the owner and the National Regulator a copy of each signed survey report that:
    - (i) identifies each minor non-conformance and the standard that the non-conformance relates to; and
    - (ii) identifies the maximum period of each non-conformance that is no longer than 12 months; and
    - (iii) contains a statement that none of the non-conformances have previously been identified as minor non-conformances for the operation of this exemption.
- (4) The National Regulator has given an approval in writing that is carried on board the vessel at all times.
- (5) The exemption:
  - (a) commences on the day the National Regulator approves the vessel operating subject to this exemption; and

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(b) ends on the day specified in the approval.

*Note* This exemption applies to a non-conformance mentioned in subsection (3) that is identified before the issue or reissue of a certificate of survey for which the initial or renewal survey is required.

## **Division 3 Temporary operations — sea trials**

### **8 Exemption — sea trials**

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel undertaking a sea trial is exempt from the requirement to have a certificate of survey, a certificate of operation and any requirement to have a load line certificate, for a period if:
  - (a) the vessel has been surveyed by an accredited marine surveyor, or another person permitted under Marine Order 503 to conduct vessel surveys; and
  - (b) the person who conducted the survey:
    - (i) considers that the vessel may be safely operated during the period taking into account the intended service category and operation of the vessel; and
    - (ii) has given the owner a signed document to that effect in the approved form and a copy of the signed document to the National Regulator.
- (2) For subparagraph (1)(b)(i), the person who conducted the survey must take into account a passage plan for the sea trial.
- (3) The exemption:
  - (a) commences on the day the person who conducted the survey gives the owner the signed document; and
  - (b) ends 14 days after it commences.

### **9 Condition**

The exemption mentioned in section 7 is subject to the condition that the owner keeps the signed document on the vessel at all times while the exemption is in effect.

## **Division 4 Temporary operations — after initial survey or where a change occurs to the vessel or its operation**

*Note 1* This Division is intended to cover those vessels with changes mentioned in Schedule 1 to Marine Order 503. Owners of these vessels cannot renew a certificate of survey and Division 6 of this exemption will not apply.

*Note 2* Division 2 may cover those vessels with changes if additional time is needed to meet the transitional standards.

### **10 Exemption — after initial survey or where a change occurs to the vessel or its operation**

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel is exempt from the requirement to have a certificate of survey, a certificate of operation and any requirement to have a load line certificate if:
  - (a) an application for approval for operation without the certificates after initial survey or where a change occurs is made to the National Regulator in the approved form; and

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- (b) the survey required for the vessel has been completed by an accredited marine surveyor or another person permitted under Marine Order 503 to conduct vessel surveys; and
  - (c) the person who conducted the survey has given the owner a signed document to the effect that the initial survey has been completed; and
  - (d) the person who conducted the survey has given the National Regulator a written report of each survey conducted of the vessel; and
  - (e) the National Regulator approves in writing the operation of the vessel without the certificates.
- (2) The exemption commences on the day the National Regulator approves the vessel operating without the certificates and ends on the earlier of the following:
- (a) the day the owner receives the certificates for the vessel;
  - (b) 90 days after it commences.
- Note* An approval for operation without certificates after initial survey may be given despite expiry of the certificates or non-compliance with certificate conditions.
- (3) The National Regulator may give the approval subject to conditions.

## **Division 5 Temporary operations — minor non-conformances being rectified after periodic survey (other than renewal survey)**

### **11 Exemption**

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel is exempt from compliance with paragraphs 11(1)(f) and 11(2)(b) and (c) of Marine Order 503 and, if the vessel is required to hold a load line certificate, from paragraphs 7(1)(a), (b) and (c) of Marine Order 507, to the extent that each paragraph requires the vessel to meet a specified standard if:
  - (a) a certificate of survey is in force for the vessel; and
  - (b) if the vessel is required to hold a load line certificate — a load line certificate is in force for the vessel; and
  - (c) subsection (2) is met.
- (2) An accredited marine surveyor, or another person permitted under Marine Order 503 to conduct vessel surveys:
  - (a) has conducted a periodic survey (other than a renewal survey) of the vessel; and
  - (b) considered that the vessel complies with the standards that apply to the vessel to the extent that only minor non-conformances are identified that will not jeopardise the safety of the vessel or any person on board; and
  - (c) given the owner a signed document to that effect in the approved form.

*Note* A list of accredited marine surveyors and recognised organisations is available on the AMSA website at <http://www.amsa.gov.au>.
- (3) The person who conducts the periodic survey must also specify the following in the signed document for the owner and give a copy of the signed document to the National Regulator as soon as practicable:
  - (a) each identified non-conformance;
  - (b) each standard to which the identified non-conformance relates.

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- (4) However, a signed document relating to an identified minor non-conformance may only be given once to an owner.

*Note* This temporary operations exemption should not apply repeatedly in relation to any particular minor non-conformance, as it is expected that the minor non-conformance will be rectified within the temporary operations exemption period.

- (5) The exemption:
- (a) commences on the day the person who conducted the periodic survey gives the owner the signed document; and
  - (b) ends on the earlier of:
    - (i) the day specified in the signed document; or
    - (ii) 90 days after it commences.

*Note* If an identified minor non-conformance is not rectified by the end of the temporary operations exemption period, the vessel must not be operated until it is rectified or a specific exemption is granted. A specific exemption may be granted for a particular vessel on application to the National Regulator.

## 12 Condition

The exemption is subject to the condition that the owner keeps the signed document on the vessel at all times.

## Division 6 Temporary operations — application being decided for renewal of certificates after renewal survey has been completed

### 13 Exemption

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel is exempt from the requirement to have a certificate of survey and any requirement to have a load line certificate, if:
- (a) the following certificates have been in force for the vessel:
    - (i) a certificate of survey;
    - (ii) if required — a load line certificate; and
  - (b) the certificate of survey or load line certificate:
    - (i) has not been revoked; or
    - (ii) is not suspended; and
  - (c) an application for the renewal of certificate of survey for the vessel has been made within 180 days before or 90 days after the expiry date of the certificate of survey; and
  - (d) the vessel has completed a renewal survey by an accredited marine surveyor, or another person permitted under Marine Order 503 to conduct vessel surveys:
    - (i) 180 days before or 90 days after the certificate of survey ceases to be in force; and
    - (ii) in accordance with the standards that apply to the vessel; and
  - (e) the person who conducted the survey:
    - (i) considers that:
      - (A) the vessel complies with the standards that apply to the vessel; or

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- (B) the vessel complies with the standards that apply to the vessel to the extent that only minor non-conformances are identified that will not jeopardise the safety of the vessel or any person on board; and
  - (ii) has given the owner a signed document to that effect in the approved form.

*Note for paragraph (d)* A list of accredited marine surveyors and recognised organisations is available on the AMSA website at <http://www.amsa.gov.au>.

- (2) If sub-subparagraph (1)(e)(i)(B) applies, the person who conducted the survey must also specify the following in the signed document to be given to the owner and give a copy of the signed document to the National Regulator:
  - (a) each identified non-conformance;
  - (b) each standard to which the identified non-conformance relates.
- (3) The exemption:
  - (a) commences the day the person who conducted the survey gives the owner the signed document; and
  - (b) ends on the earlier of:
    - (i) 120 days after the day the certificate of survey that has been in force for the vessel expired; or
    - (ii) the day on which the National Regulator makes a decision in relation to the application for renewal of certificate of survey for the vessel.
- (4) However, the National Regulator may extend the exemption period in paragraph (3)(b)(i) after notifying the applicant in writing.

## **14 Conditions**

The exemption is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the owner keeps the signed document on the vessel at all times;
- (b) the vessel complies with the conditions on the certificate, or certificates, previously in force for the vessel.

## **Division 6A Temporary operations — application being decided for renewal of certificate of operation**

### **15 Exemption**

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel is exempt from the requirement to have a certificate of operation if:
  - (a) a certificate of operation that was in force for the vessel has expired; and
  - (b) the certificate of operation:
    - (i) has not been revoked; or
    - (ii) was not suspended; and
  - (c) an application for the renewal of the certificate of operation has been made to the National Regulator before the expiry of the certificate mentioned in paragraph (a).

*Note* If one certificate of operation has been in force for more than one domestic commercial vessel, each vessel is exempt under this section.

- (2) The exemption:
  - (a) commences the day after the certificate of operation expires; and



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- (b) ends on the earlier of:
    - (i) 120 days after the day the certificate of operation that has been in force for the vessel expired; or
    - (ii) the day on which the National Regulator makes a decision in relation to the application for the renewal of certificate of operation for the vessel.
  - (3) However, the National Regulator may extend the exemption period in paragraph (2)(b)(i) after notifying the applicant in writing.

## **16 Conditions**

The exemption is subject to the condition that the vessel continues to operate under the conditions prescribed for the certificate of operation that was in force for the vessel.

## **Division 7 Temporary operations — extension of time to finalise survey after certificate has expired**

### **17 Exemption**

- (1) A domestic commercial vessel is exempt from the requirement to have a certificate of survey and any requirement to have a load line certificate if:
  - (a) an application for approval for operation without the certificate of survey and any required load line certificate is made to the National Regulator in the approved form; and
  - (b) all in-water components of the renewal survey have been completed as far as is reasonably practicable, by an accredited marine surveyor or other person authorised to conduct inspections; and
  - (c) the person who conducted the in-water components of the renewal survey has given the National Regulator a written report of each survey conducted of the vessel; and
  - (d) the National Regulator approves in writing the operation of the vessel without the certificate of survey and load line certificate for the period.
- (2) The exemption commences on the expiry date of the certificate that was in force and ends on the earlier of the following:
  - (a) the date specified in the approval;
  - (b) 90 days after the date of expiry of the certificate.

### **18 Conditions**

The vessel must comply with:

- (a) the conditions on the certificate that was in force for the vessel; and
- (b) any additional conditions imposed by the National Regulator.

### **19 Approvals**

The National Regulator may give the approval subject to conditions.

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## **Division 8 Temporary operations — operation outside scope of certificate**

### **20 Exemption**

- (1) This section applies to a vessel:
  - (a) that has a certificate of operation or a certificate of survey; and
  - (b) for which the owner applies to the National Regulator for approval to operate in a manner that is not permitted by the conditions on the certificate of operation.
- (2) The vessel is exempt from the requirement to comply with the condition or conditions on the certificate, to the extent the condition or conditions do not permit the manner of operation, if:
  - (a) an application for approval is made in the approved form; and
  - (b) if requested, a report on the condition of the vessel is given to the National Regulator; and
  - (c) the National Regulator gives an approval in writing.
- (3) The exemption commences on the day the National Regulator gives the approval and ends on the earlier of:
  - (a) the day specified in the approval; or
  - (b) 90 days after it commences.

### **21 Approvals**

The National Regulator may give the approval subject to conditions.

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