



The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) is the national agency responsible for maritime safety, protection of the marine environment and maritime aviation search and rescue. Vessels operating in Australia for commercial, governmental or research activities must be compliant with Australian standards and regulations.

As the National Regulator, AMSA is responsible for the safety of domestic commercial vessels and ensuring owner or operator obligations are being met. AMSA takes the safety of domestic commercial vessels very seriously and conducts regular inspections of vessels to ensure they are operating safely.

To the Master

As part of AMSA's regulatory function, AMSA will conduct an inspection of your vessel on the date specified. The inspector will endeavor to complete this inspection in a timely manner. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

You will be provided with a report of the inspection which you should keep for your records. Please contact the inspector if you have any questions about the inspection or the information provided in the report.

In undertaking their duties, AMSA inspectors will act with professionalism, integrity and courtesy whilst on board your vessel. AMSA inspectors are open to your views and requests if they are within legislative requirements.

AMSA takes feedback received seriously. If at any time you think an inspector has not acted appropriately, please tell them. You can also provide feedback online via the AMSA website at <https://www.amsa.gov.au/provide-feedback-about-amsa>.

Date of inspection

Inspector Name

Your responsibility

It is the Master's responsibility to provide:

- A responsible crew member to accompany the inspector at all times during the inspection, where appropriate.
- A gangway or a safe means of access to your vessel. If safe access is not available, you may be required to facilitate safe access by moving the vessel or making other arrangements, as per section 95 of the Marine Safety (Domestic Commercial Vessel) National Law Act 2012.

Please note: *It is a serious Commonwealth offence to obstruct, hinder, intimidate, provide inducements (bribes) or provide false or misleading information to a Commonwealth Public official, including AMSA Marine Safety Inspectors. Penalties including imprisonment of up to 2 years per offence may apply. Refer to the Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995.*



What to expect during the inspection

The Inspector will determine the level of the inspection conducted. They may focus on specific areas or may conduct a detailed inspection. The following are examples of areas or items that may be inspected or tested during the inspection. This is not an exhaustive list and other areas may be inspected:

- Vessel and crew certificates
- Stability books, reports and information
- EPIRB/certificates
- LPG installation/certificates
- Unique vessel identifier
- Engine ventilation flaps
- Engine compartment
- Hull
- Wheelhouse
- Valves, pipes, lines (e.g., fuel pipes, high-pressure pipes, etc.)
- Radio and other communication equipment
- Alarms testing (e.g., bilge, fire detection, etc.)
- General electrical safety, annual electric checks/certificates
- Freeing ports/scuttles
- Safety equipment (e.g., flares, lifejackets, buoys, life rafts condition/certificates, etc.)
- Safety Management System (e.g., risk assessments, crewing, passenger counts, incident reports, training records, etc.)
- Firefighting equipment (e.g., fuel-shut off mechanisms, dampers, extinguishers, pumps)

Body Worn Cameras

AMSA has instructed its inspectors to use Body Worn Cameras. The camera will be worn openly. The inspectors will notify anyone directly involved with an interaction that the inspection is being recorded and obtain their consent.

However, AMSA Inspectors have legislative powers to make recordings that do not require consent – These powers include recording of vessels, premises and things on vessels and premises, and extend to people where a person is not the subject of the recording. Additionally, consent is not required if it is unable to be gained in time to record:

- An observed breach of AMSA administered legislation.
- Non-compliant behaviour that will lead to compliance or enforcement action being taken.
- An incident that is about to or has occurred.
- Aggressive, abusive or obstructive behaviour being directed at the inspector that hinders them in the performance of their duty.

When a camera starts recording it will beep, and the lights on the front of the camera will turn red. While recording, the camera will continue to make an intermittent beeping noise every 2 minutes, and the lights will continue to flash red.

Further information

For more information about vessel inspections and for a sample inspection checklist, visit the AMSA website:

www.amsa.gov.au/vessels-operators/domestic-commercial-vessels/domestic-commercial-vessel-inspections