



Australian Government

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

MEDIA RELEASE

18 November 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CELESTE GIVEN CLEARANCE TO LEAVE

The PNG-flagged tug *Celeste* has been given clearance by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority to leave Darwin following an inspection of the vessel.

The operators of the *Celeste* were notified of 21 deficiencies in structure, equipment and conditions aboard the boat following an initial inspection by AMSA officers on November 12. Among the problems identified were insufficient provisions, inadequate refrigeration for food and non-functioning toilets.

The vessel was not officially detained, but the operators were directed to rectify the deficiencies and allow a follow-up inspection by AMSA before setting sail.

An inspection of the *Celeste* was carried out by an AMSA officer on Thursday in which it was assessed that the deficiencies had been addressed and the vessel was cleared to leave.

Media Contact:

Adrian Rollins

0400 016 845