



## This is a guide to the equipment standards and requirements that apply to class 3C vessels under the National Law.

### It consists of two parts:

Part 1 – Safety Equipment and EPIRBs – (NSCV C7A and C7B sections relating to EPIRBs)

Part 2 – Other equipment – (NSCV C1, C4, C5B, C7B, C7C and C7D)

| Vessel type   | Safety equipment & EPIRBs | Other equipment  |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| <b>New</b>  | Part 1                    | Part 2   |
| <b>Transitional</b>   | Part 1                    | Part 2   |
| <b>Existing</b> vessels operating before 1 July 2013            | Part 1                    | The standards that applied to the vessel on 30 June 2013.  |
| <b>Existing</b> vessels <b>not</b> operating before 1 July 2013 | Part 1                    | The standards that applied at the time of design approval. |

**'New', 'transitional' and 'existing' vessels are defined in section 22 of Marine Order 503.**

*NOTE: Existing vessels should continue to carry equipment as previously required (apart from safety equipment), and may also choose to carry the "other equipment" in Part 2.*

This equipment guide is general in nature and may not apply to your individual circumstances. Factors including the application of Exemption 02 or Exemption 40, and whether the vessel was an existing commercial vessel before 1 July 2013, may mean that different equipment standards apply to your vessel. Vessel owners should confirm on a case by case basis that they carry the required equipment for the vessels particular circumstances and operations for which they are engaged.

**Vessels 500 GT and over surveyed under NSCV must also comply with the requirements in Marine Order 25.**

### Glossary

|             |  |                  |   |
|-------------|--|------------------|---|
| <b>nm</b>   | nautical miles   | <b>ECS</b>       | Electronic Chart System                         |
| <b>NSCV</b> | National Standard for Commercial Vessels   | <b>ECDIS</b>     | Electronic Chart and Display Information System |
| <b>m</b>    | measured length in metres  | <b>GNSS</b>      | Global Navigation Satellite System              |
| <b>100%</b> | for total complement of vessel (maximum number of passengers and crew permitted) | <b>GT</b>        | Gross Tonnage                                   |
| <b>AIS</b>  | Automatic Identification System  | <b>LCS</b>       | Limited Coast Station                           |
| <b>All</b>  | refers to vessels of any length in that class                                    | <b>MO</b>        | Marine Order                                    |
|             |  | <b>PA System</b> | Public Address System                           |

### Further Information

For a copy of the National Standard for Commercial Vessels, please visit [www.amsa.gov.au](http://www.amsa.gov.au) or alternatively, contact AMSA on 02 6279 5000 or email: [amsaconnect@amsa.gov.au](mailto:amsaconnect@amsa.gov.au)

## Part 1 – Safety equipment and EPIRBs

### FOR NEW, TRANSITIONAL AND EXISTING CLASS 3C VESSELS

| Items required   | Vessels affected  |
|--|---|
| <b>Liferafts and rescue boats</b>  |   |
| <p>Inflatable coastal liferaft for 100% complement, or a dinghy that complies with NSCV Subsection C7A.</p> <p>(NOTE 1: When an existing dinghy being used in place of a liferaft is due for replacement, it must be replaced with a liferaft.)</p> <p>(NOTE 2: For restricted offshore operations (C waters), coastal liferafts may be replaced by open reversible inflatable liferafts fitted with a hydrostatic release if a documented risk assessment has determined that the safety of crew and passengers would not be adversely affected. See NSCV Subsection C7A for a list of factors which should be considered in the risk assessment.</p> <p>Open reversible liferafts must comply with Subsection C7A.</p> | <25m, unless <15m and level flotation has been fitted as per NSCV Subsection C6B                                    |
| Survival craft and rescue boats  | ≥25m as required by sections 33 to 35 of MO25   |
| Anti-exposure suit of appropriate size for 100% rescue boat crew   | ≥25m and continuously engaged on voyages in operational areas with a monthly mean water temperature of 15°C or less |
| <b>Lifebuoys</b>   |   |
| Type and quantity of lifebuoys listed below is required on existing vessels when lifebuoys are acquired or replaced, or by 1 January 2022 whichever comes first. Each lifebuoy assumed to support 2 persons.   |   |
| 8 minimum: 2 with self-activating lights and smoke signals, 2 with self-activating lights and 2 with buoyant lines   | ≥60m  |
| 6 minimum: 2 with self-activating lights and smoke signals, 1 with self-activating light and 2 with buoyant lines  | ≥45m <60m   |
| 4 minimum: 2 with self-activating lights and smoke signals and 2 with buoyant lines  | ≥25m <45m   |
| 2 minimum: 1 with self-activating light and 1 with buoyant line  | ≥15m <25m   |
| 1 minimum with self-activating light   | <15m, unless <10m and carries 1 person only, or <6m and level flotation has been fitted as per NSCV Subsection C6B  |
| <b>Lifejackets</b>   |   |
| Type and quantity of lifejackets listed below is required on existing vessels when lifejackets are acquired or replaced, or by 1 January 2022 whichever comes first.   |   |
| Coastal lifejacket with self-activating light for 100% complement  | All   |

| Items required  | Vessels affected  |
|---|---|
| <b>Distress signals – pyrotechnics</b>  |   |
| 3 Parachute distress rockets  | All   |
| 2 Red hand-held flares  | All   |
| 1 Hand-held orange smoke signal   | All   |
| <b>Onboard communications and alarm systems</b>   |   |
| General emergency alarm system  | ≥25m  |
| Battery operated torch for each crew member   | All   |
| <b>Medical Supplies</b> as per NSCV Subsection C7A<br>Note: Generic equivalent solutions may also be applicable to vessels operating in C, D or E waters  |   |
| Scale F Medication and Medical equipment  | All   |
| <b>Distress signals – EPIRBs</b><br>All vessels operating >2nm seaward from land require an EPIRB that is registered with AMSA.<br>(NOTE – this is in addition to any EPIRB carried as part of a liferaft or survival craft.) |   |
| <b>From 1 January 2021:</b><br>A float-free EPIRB<br>( <i>a water-activated EPIRB in a float-free bracket</i> )   | ≥12m; or<br>≥7.5m to <12m without level flotation; or<br><7.5m without level flotation, UNLESS all persons on board are wearing a lifejacket AND the vessel's EPIRB is GNSS equipped (e.g. GPS). ( <i>In this case the EPIRB does not need to be float-free type.</i> ) |
| <b>From 1 January 2021:</b><br>A manually-activated or water-activated EPIRB  | <12m with level flotation   |

## Part 2 – Other equipment

### FOR NEW CLASS 3C VESSELS, AND TRANSITIONAL CLASS 3C VESSELS ONLY

| Items required   | Vessels affected  |
|--|---|
| <b>Communication equipment – NSCV C7B</b>  |   |
| Signalling light   | All   |
| VHF Radio (DSC optional but preferred)   | All   |
| Current edition of the “Marine VHF Radio Operators Handbook”                                   | All ≥7.5m   |
| HF Radio (DSC optional but preferred) or Satellite communication system or Satellite telephone | All vessels operating outside of LCS / VHF coverage areas       |
| Current edition of the “Marine Radio Operators Handbook”                                       | All ≥7.5m vessels operating outside of LCS / VHF coverage areas |

| Items required   | Vessels affected   |
|--|--|
| <b>Emergency electrical installation and equipment</b>   |  |
| Self-contained source of electrical power, either a dedicated battery or diesel generator, to provide emergency power to all key systems for 3hrs. (See NSCV Subsection C5B) | <35m   |
| Emergency lighting (See NSCV Subsection C5B)   | ≥500GT   |
| <b>Navigation equipment</b>  |  |
| Navigation equipment on vessels ≥35m must comply with the requirements in MO27   |  |
| Clock (may be included in other navigation equipment)  | <35m   |
| Pair of binoculars   | <35m   |
| Echo sounder   | <35m   |
| Nautical publications  | <35m   |
| ECDIS or ECS or Nautical charts and backup for electronics   | <35m   |
| GNSS   | <35m where plotting equipment (ECDIS, ECS, etc.) is fitted |
| Radar reflector  | <12m   |
| Speed and distance indicator   | <35m   |
| Compass (card 75mm minimum diameter)   | <10m   |
| Compass (card 100mm minimum diameter)  | ≥10m <20m  |
| Compass (card 125mm minimum diameter)  | ≥20m <35m  |
| Communication system to emergency steering   | <35m   |
| Navigation lights, day shapes and flags as per the Prevention of Collision at Sea Regulations (MO30)   | All  |
| Sound Signal   | <12m LOA *   |
| Whistle  | ≥12m LOA *   |
| Bell (300mm minimum diameter)  | ≥20m LOA *   |
| Gong   | ≥100m LOA *  |

\* 'length' for the purposes of the sound signals required by COLREGs is Length Overall not measured length as used in the NSCV and vessels Certificate of Survey.

| Items required   | Vessels affected                               |
|--|--|
| <b>Miscellaneous equipment</b>   |  |
| Windlass, anchors and cables (See NSCV Subsection C7D for anchoring requirements)  | All  |
| Sea anchor   | <10m unless capable of anchoring in deep water |
| Hawsers and warps  | All  |
| Logbook (See MO504)  | All  |
| Rudder angle indicator   | ≥15m fitted with power operated steering gear  |
| Collar repair kit and air pump   | All Inflatables/RIBs                           |
| Bilge pumps (see Table 1)  | All  |
| Approved safe means of access (See NSCV Section C1)  | All  |
| <b>Fire fighting equipment</b>   |  |
| Fire fighting equipment requirements are not based on vessel length alone, but are dependent on individual vessel layout, construction materials and operational aspects such as fire risk areas and cargo types etc. It is not practical to summarise all potential requirements in this guidance notice. |  |
| Refer to requirements in table 1 of NSCV C4  | All  |

**Table 1: Bilge pumps**

| Measured Length of vessel | Manual pumps with discharge capacity  |                            | Power pumps with discharge capacity |                            |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                           | Number  | Capacity in kilolitre/hour | Number                              | Capacity in kilolitre/hour |
| <5m                       | Bailing bucket acceptable for open boats provided the bilge is readily accessible |                            |                                     |                            |
| ≥5m <7.5m                 | 1   | 4.0                        |                                     |                            |
| ≥7.5m <10m                | 2   | 4.0                        |                                     |                            |
| ≥10m <12.5m               | 1   | 5.5                        | 1                                   | 5.5                        |
| ≥12.5m <17.5m             | 1   | 5.5                        | 1                                   | 11.0                       |
| ≥17.5m <20m               | 1   | 8.0                        | 1                                   | 11.0                       |
| ≥20m <25m                 | -   | -                          | 2                                   | 11.0                       |
| ≥25m <35m                 | -   | -                          | 2                                   | 15.0                       |