

South African Maritime Safety Authority



Marine Notice No. 27 of 2008

Implementation of the Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) Regulations 2007 as amended

TO ALL AUTHORISED AGENCIES, SAFETY OFFICERS, SAMSAR ACCREDITED SKIPPER EXAMINERS, AUTHORITIES HAVING JURISDICTION OVER INLAND WATERS AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES, SURVEYORS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Summary

This marine notice sets out the implementation dates for skippers and small vessels to comply with the provisions of the *Merchant Shipping (National Small Vessel Safety) Regulations 2007* as amended ("Regulations") with respect to Certificates of Competence ("CoC") and design and construction requirements respectively.

1 In terms of regulation 39 (2), existing vessels must comply with design and construction requirements as set out in regulation 6 by 8 August 2009 (that is two years after the commencement of the Regulations).

2 With regard to regulation 39 (3), commercial vessels previously exempted under paragraph 1 (1) (c) (i) of Annexure 1 of the *Merchant Shipping (Small Vessel Safety) Regulations 2002* must comply with item 1 of Annexure 1 by 8 August 2009 (that is two years after the commencement of the Regulations).

3 Furthermore, the requirements for skippers to be in possession of CoC and for vessels to be in possession of Local General Safety Certificate (LGSC) or Certificate of Fitness (CoF) for seagoing vessels have been in place since 2002. **Therefore, the implementation dates listed hereunder are for vessels and skippers operating solely on inland waters i.e. Category R vessels.**

IMPLEMENTATION DATES

GROUPS	VESSEL TYPE AND SKIPPERS	DATE OF COMPLIANCE
Group I	Commercial vessels which were exempted by 2002 Regulations ¹ must comply with item 1 of Annexure 1 (built-in buoyancy) of the Regulations.	8 August 2009
	Skippers of commercial vessels must be in possession of CoC issued by SAMSAR	8 August 2008

¹ Merchant Shipping (Small Vessel Safety) Regulation, 2002

GROUPS	VESSEL TYPE AND SKIPPERS	DATE OF COMPLIANCE
Group II	All vessels that were built and used solely on inland waters before the commencement of the Regulations must comply with regulation 6 (design and construction of vessels) of the said Regulations.	8 August 2009
	Skippers of pleasure vessels must be in possession of CoC issued by SAMSA	8 August 2008*

4 *Due to the number of people who must still get their Category R (inland waters) skippers' licenses, SAMSA decided to implement a window period for compliance. Therefore, skippers of pleasure vessels must be in possession of CoC issued by SAMSA by 1 March 2009.

5 Pleasure vessels are required by the Regulations to have CoF by 8 August 2008. However, a window period for compliance is granted by SAMSA until 1 March 2009.

6 Commercial vessels are required by the Regulations to have LGSC by 8 August 2008. However, a window period for compliance is granted by SAMSA until 1 January 2009.

7 The design and construction requirements (regulation 6) and built-in buoyancy (item 1 of Annex 1) enter into force on 8 August 2009. Therefore, the vessels in 5 and 6 above will, in the interim, be granted an endorsed CoF and LGSC respectively, with the proviso that full compliance is required by 8 August 2009.

8 Furthermore, small vessels built after the commencement of the Regulations must comply with the said Regulations.

8 August 2008

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SM6/5/2/1

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