



Notice to Industry

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Application of Section 12 of the USL Code

As you are aware Section 12 (Radio Equipment) of the Uniform Shipping Laws (USL) Code has recently been amended, and Department for Planning and Infrastructure currently applies the Western Australian Marine (Radio Telephony) Regulations 1981 rather than Section 12 to commercial vessels.

Our new Maritime Bill is being drafted for presentation to parliament in the spring session and all regulations are being revised to suit.

It is envisaged that once the new legislation is in place we will be applying Section 12 of the USL Code as a matter of national uniformity rather than our own requirements and the radiotelephony regulations will be withdrawn.

For existing vessels a suitable period will be granted to allow sufficient time to achieve compliance, or exemption considered in accordance with clause 8, part 3 of section 3 of Section 12, however we will require that all new vessels be constructed in accordance with Section 12.

In particular, special note should be made of Appendix C, Clause C.13 which reads

“The reserve source of electrical energy shall be located in the upper part of the ship, outside of the engine room, and shall consist of a re-chargeable battery or set of re-chargeable batteries.”

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