



This is a guide to the equipment standards and requirements that apply to class 3E 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 |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| New | Part 1 | Part 2 |
| Transitional | Part 1 | Part 2 |
| Existing vessels operating before 1 July 2013 | Part 1 | The standards that applied to the vessel on 30 June 2013. |
| Existing vessels not 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

| | |
|-------------|--|
| nm | nautical miles |
| NSCV | National Standard for Commercial Vessels |
| m | measured length in metres |
| 100% | for total complement of vessel (maximum number of passengers and crew permitted) |
| AIS | Automatic Identification System |
| All | refers to vessels of any length in that class |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| ECS | Electronic Chart System |
| ECDIS | Electronic Chart and Display Information System |
| GNSS | Global Navigation Satellite System |
| GT | Gross Tonnage |
| LCS | Limited Coast Station |
| MO | Marine Order |
| PA System | Public Address System |

Further Information

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

Part 1 – Safety equipment and EPIRBs

FOR NEW, TRANSITIONAL AND EXISTING CLASS 3E VESSELS

| Items required | Vessels affected |
|--|--|
| Buoyant appliances Each lifebuoy assumed to support 2 persons. Dinghy must comply with NSCV Subsection C7A. | |
| Dinghies / buoyant appliances / lifebuoys or combination, for 100% complement | ≥15m |
| Buoyant appliances, lifebuoys or both, for 100% complement | <15m, not required if vessel is fitted with level flotation as per NSCV Subsection C6B |
| Suitable equipment to sustain and recover persons overboard, e.g. heaving line with rescue quoit, ladder, rescue sling, scramble net | <25m |
| Lifebuoys Each lifebuoy assumed to support 2 persons. | |
| 2 minimum: 1 with self-activating light and 1 with buoyant line | ≥15m (including those already required in buoyancy appliances section above) |
| 1 minimum with self-activating light | <15m (including those already required in buoyancy appliances section above) |
| Lifejackets New and transitional vessels must comply with the type and quantity of lifejackets listed below. Existing vessels must comply with the type of lifejackets listed below when lifejackets are acquired or replaced. Existing vessels must comply with the quantity of lifejackets listed below. | |
| Coastal lifejacket for 100% complement | All |
| Distress signals – pyrotechnics | |
| 2 Red hand-held flares | All |
| 1 Hand-held orange smoke signal | All |
| Onboard communications and alarm systems | |
| Battery operated torch for each crew member | All |
| Medical Supplies as per NSCV Subsection C7A Note: Generic equivalent solutions may also be applicable to vessels operating in C, D or E waters | |
| Scale G Medication and Medical equipment | All |
| Distress signals – EPIRBs All vessels operating >2nm seaward from land require an EPIRB that is registered with AMSA. (NOTE – this is in addition to any EPIRB carried as part of a liferaft or survival craft.) | |
| From 1 January 2021: A float-free EPIRB (a water-activated EPIRB in a float-free bracket) | ≥12m |
| From 1 January 2021: A manually-activated or water-activated EPIRB | <12m |

Part 2 – Other equipment

FOR NEW CLASS 3E VESSELS, AND TRANSITIONAL CLASS 3E VESSELS ONLY

| Items required | Vessels affected |
|--|---|
| Communication equipment – NSCV C7B | |
| 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 |
| Emergency electrical installation and equipment | |
| Self-contained source of electrical power, either a dedicated battery or diesel generator, to provide emergency power to all key systems for 2hrs. (See NSCV Subsection C5B) | <35m |
| Emergency lighting (See NSCV Subsection C5B) | ≥500GT |
| Navigation equipment | |
| 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 | ≥12m <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 * |

| Items required | Vessels affected |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 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.

| Miscellaneous equipment | |
|--|---|
| Windlass, anchors and cables (See NSCV Subsection C7D for anchoring requirements) | All |
| 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 |
| Fire fighting equipment | |
| 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 |