

Department Of The Marine

Marine Notice No. 10 of 1988

New Merchant Shipping Safety Regulations

(Code of Safe Working Practices, Means of Access, Health and Safety and Safety Officials and Reporting of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences).

Attention All Shipowners, Ship Masters, Ship Officers and Ship Agents.

The Minister for the Marine has made the following Regulations which will come into force on 1st July, 1988:

- (i) The Merchant Shipping (Code of Safe Working Practices) Regulations 1988 (S.I. No. 107 of 1988).

These require masters and other specified persons to make available to any seaman in a ship who requests it, a copy of the UK Department of Transport publication entitled "Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seaman" or the International Labour Office publication entitled "Accident Prevention on Board Ship at Sea and in Port".

The UK publication is available from H.M. Stationary Office London, while the I.L.O. publication is available from I.L.O. Publications, International Labour Office, CH-1211, Geneva 22, Switzerland.

- (ii) The Merchant Shipping (Means of Access) Regulations 1988 (S.I. No. 108 of 1988)

These require certain ships to carry a gangway, an accommodation ladder, safety nets and if a portable ladder is carried, one of a specified type and description and in specified circumstances, bulwark ladders, handholds and guardrails.

- (iii) The Merchant Shipping (Health and Safety: General Duties) Regulations 1988 (S.I. No. 109 of 1988)

These require employers to ensure the health and safety of all their employees and of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions. They also require the employee to take reasonable care for the health and safety of himself and other persons.

- (iv) The Merchant Shipping (Safety Officials and Reporting of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences) Regulations 1988 (S.I. No. 110 of 1988)

These require the appointment on board certain ships of a safety representative and safety committees to ensure compliance with various safety practices and regulations. They also require the reporting of accidents in an approved format (Form ARF).

Full details are set out in the Department of the Marine publication entitled "[Guidance Notes for Safety Officials](#)" which is available from the Government Publications Sale Office, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

Copies of the above Regulations may be purchased from the Government Publications Sale Office, Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2.

Fionan O Muircheartaigh,
Runai

Department of the Marine
Dublin 2

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