

Port State Control – Information Notice No. 2 of 2011

The purpose of this notice is to advise shipowners, operators, managers and Masters of Isle of Man registered ships of the following;

Reporting of Breakdowns, Accidents and Defective Equipment in Australia Waters

The Australian Maritime Safety Agency (AMSA) have found that there is an increasing number of vessels that are failing to report defects to ships equipment as required by the Navigation Act and SOLAS.

There are requirements under both the Commonwealth Navigation Act [Section 268] and SOLAS [chapter 1, Reg11(c)] for ships to report incidents, accidents, breakdowns and defective equipment.

SOLAS Chapter 1, Regulation 11(c) - Whenever an accident occurs to a ship or a defect is discovered, either of which affects the safety of the ship or the efficiency or the completeness of its life-saving appliances, or other equipment, the Master or owner of the ship shall report at the earliest opportunity to the Administration [Flag state], the nominated surveyor or recognized organization [classification society] responsible for issuing the relevant certificate, who shall cause investigations to be initiated to determine whether a survey is necessary.

If the ship is in the port of another Contracting Government [port state i.e. Australia], the Master or owner shall also report immediately to the appropriate authorities [AMSA] and the nominated surveyor or recognized organization shall ascertain that that such a report has been made.

Method of Reporting

The correct method of reporting to AMSA is by use of the AMSA Form 18 Incident Alert [to be completed within 4 hours] and AMSA Form 19 Incident Report [to be completed within 72 hours]. These forms are available from the AMSA web site www.amsa.gov.au and should be sent in the first instance to reports@amsa.gov.au Additional methods of reporting for ships when in the AUSREP AREA is to follow the information in Section 7.2 of the AUSREP Book and report via the RCC.

It should be noted that penal provisions do apply for failure to report under the Navigation Act. Vessels failing to report under the SOLAS requirements may find themselves undergoing additional scrutiny and or deficiencies being issued in a PSC inspection.

As a reminder to all shipowners, operators, managers and Masters of Isle of Man registered ships, the Isle of Man Ship Registry should also be notified if any vessel has a defect which effects its statutory certification. Whether, that is equipment which affects the safety of the vessel or the marine environment, wherever that vessel may be.

Mark Bregazzi
Senior Surveyor/PSC Co-ordinator
Isle of Man Ship Registry