
**CODE OF
SAFE WORKING PRACTICE
FOR
AUSTRALIAN SEAFARERS**

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ISBN

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FOREWORD

Safety in the workplace is now one of the most important considerations of any organisation and particularly so in the maritime industry which operates in such an inhospitable environment.

Mariners work in remote locations, at all hours, with limited access to health services and support. In other words, they must protect themselves and must set out with a realistic approach to health and safety.

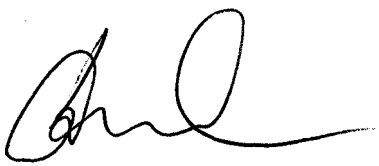
The need for a safety culture backed up by safe systems of work is absolutely imperative.

This first edition of *The Code of Safe Working Practice for Australian Seafarers*, a companion to *The Australian Offshore Support Vessel Code of Safe Working Practice*, released by AMSA in 1997, provides broad guidance for the minimum requirements for protecting seafarers' health and safety.

The code incorporates international standards with specific Australian occupational health and safety work practices. It covers seafarers, contractors and other persons on board ships to which the *Occupational Health and Safety (Maritime Industry) Act* applies.

AMSA is indebted to the members of the industry working group which contributed their valuable time to producing this code.

I commend its use to the industry.



Clive Davidson

Chief Executive

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION

This Code is an adaptation of the ILO code of practice entitled *Accident prevention on board ship at sea and in port* (copyright © 1996 International Labour Organisation) and is reproduced by permission.

A Committee established under the auspices of the Seacare Authority and chaired by AMSA adapted this code. AMSA wishes to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of those involved in its production.

This code of practice is approved pursuant to section 109 of the *Occupational Health and Safety (Maritime Industry) Act*, for the purposes of providing practical guidance to operators.

DISCLAIMER

Responsibility for the adaptation as well as any omissions or errors rests solely with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

The use of this Code does not affect the responsibility of the ship operator to operate safely and to observe statutory requirements, or of any person to exercise the normal duty of care.

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