

A. Preliminary

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A.1 General

This section outlines all construction requirements in detail of vessels being constructed as well as providing special construction requirements for vessels being constructed out of the following one or more materials:

Steel
Aluminium
Timber
Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP)

A.1.1 Use of AUSCLASS Rules

AUSCLASS published rules may be adopted by marine builders and designers as being to the equivalent standards of specific construction sections.

A.2 Non-conventional Vessels

The requirements have been constructed in regard to conventional vessels and conventional areas of operation. For vessels of non-conventional design or operation, AUSCLASS may allow special considerations.

A.3 Definitions

General definitions of requiring applications in this section have been provided below and for unique definitions that only occur in a single section, the definition will be provided in that section.

Accommodation space	– Passenger spaces including corridors, cabins crew areas, lavatories, shops, lockers and other similar spaces
Approved	– Authority has approved
Governing authority	– The statutory marine authority of the Commonwealth of Australia
Base line	– Horizontal plane passing through the lowest point on the keel of the vessel
Breadth	– The maximum measured breadth amidships <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. In metal hulls- to the moulded line of the frame2. Other hulls – to the outer surface of the hull
Bulkhead deck	– The deck at which the watertight bulkheads extend to
Cargo space	– Any space that is appropriated for cargo including lockers and isolated pantries
Classed vessel	– A vessel that has an in-force classification certificate
Classification certificate	– A certificate issued by a classification society which records the classifications accorded to a vessel by a society
Classification Society	– An association approved for the survey of vessels
Commercial vessel	– A vessel used for the purpose of any business or commercial transaction and is subject to state legislation, this includes all government vessels exclude those under control of the minister of defence
Control station	– Spaces where the vessels radio, main navigation, emergency power, fire recording and/or fire control equipment is centralised
Crew space	– Accommodation space that is only dedicated to crew
Deep tank	– A tank used for carrying liquid that forms part of the hull excluding double hulls
Depth (D)	– The moulded depth measured at the middle of the measured length from the baseline to the top of the freeboard deck beams.
Draft for scantlings (d)	– The draft in meters from the moulded baseline to the load waterline at the middle of the (L) or 0.66D, whichever is greater
Examiner	– A person to conduct examinations, appointed by the governing authority
Existing vessel	– A vessel which is not a new vessel
Freeboard deck	– (a) for non-passenger vessels being assigned a load line will be as defined in the Load Lines Section (b) for other non-passenger vessels will normally be the uppermost continuous deck having permanent means of closing all openings in its

weather portions and below which all openings in the vessel's side are equipped with permanent means for watertight closure except where specifically exempted by other Sections of these Uniform Requirements

(c) for passenger vessels other than open boats will be the bulkhead deck

(d) for open boats will be the top of the gunwale.

Fishing vessel	– A vessel used or intended to be used for catching living resources of the sea excluding algae
Machinery space	– Spaces that are design to contain machinery, including refrigeration, boilers, auxiliary propelling machinery or a machinery space that is defined by the governing authority
Main vertical zone	– One of the main vertical zones which the hull, superstructure and deckhouse of a vessel is divided into for structural fire protection purposes
Master	– The person having command or in charge of the vessel
Measured length	– Definition from clause 1.8 of Part B of the NSCV
Nautical mile	– The international nautical mile that is 1852 metres
New vessel	– A vessel, that has its keel laid or at similar stage at the introduction of new applicable provisions
NSCV	– National Standard for Commercial Vessels
Open vessel	– A vessel which does not have a watertight deck along its whole or partial length
Owner	– In relation to a vessel means any person exercising or discharging or claiming the right or accepting the obligation to exercise or discharge any of the powers or duties of an owner whether on his own behalf or on behalf of another and includes a person who is the owner jointly with any other person or persons and the manager or secretary of anybody corporate or company.
Passenger	– Any person that is not the master, a member of the crew or other persons employed or engaged in the operation or business o the vessel, and children under the age of year old
Passenger space	– Space provided for the accommodation and use of passengers, excluding service space
Passenger vessel	– A vessel which carries or is certified to carry more than twelve passengers
Permit	– a written permission granting the conditional operation of a vessel
Public space	– Areas used by the public for recreational spaces, e.g. dining room, smoke room and halls
Radio surveyor	– A person appointed by the governing authority to be a radio surveyor

Service space	– Spaces used for galleys, main pantries, store excluding isolated pantries and lockers, mail rooms, workshops and those forming part of the machinery spaces
Special personal	– Personnel that are not crew or paying passenger that are onboard for special purpose and have knowledge on safety procedures and handling of safety equipment
Strength deck	– the deck which forms the upper flange of the effective hull girder at any part of its length.
Superstructure	– A decked structure, including a raised quarter deck, on the freeboard deck extending from side to side of the vessel or with the side plating of the structure not being inboard of the shell plating by more than 4 % of the vessel's breadth. Where, in pursuance of the above, a lower deck is specified as the freeboard deck of a vessel, any part of the hull which extends above the deck so specified shall be deemed to be a superstructure.
Superstructure deck	– the deck that forms the upper surface of a superstructure with all openings fitted with closing means
Surveyor	– Personnel appointed by the governing authority to be a surveyor
Tanker	– A cargo vessel whose purpose is to transport bulk fluid cargoes
Tons	– In regard to grading a vessel means gross tonnage
Unclassed vessel	– A vessel that is not classes
Unmanned machinery space	– A decked propulsion machinery space that under normal operating conditions is not occupied or is intermittently occupied
Vessel	– Any ship, boat or other description of a vessel used in navigation
Watertight door	– A door that prevents water from passing through
Weather deck	– The uppermost continuous deck that is exposed to the weather
Weathertight	– Sealed against rain and wind

A.4 Date built

Unless expressed otherwise these rules shall apply to all vessel of new construction and vessels with their keel laid or at similar stage of construction after the 31st of December 1991. Vessel constructed prior to this date shall be specially considered by AUSCLASS, determining which parts of the rules shall be required.

A.4.1 Conflicting requirements

In the case where the rules contain conflicting, overlapping or duplicate requirements which are inconsistent. The requirements contain in the most recent amendment shall be adopted.

A.5 Submission of information

A.5.1 Preliminary Information, Plans and Specifications to be Submitted

When an existing vessel, vessel to be constructed or significantly altered have any doubt exists on the requirements of certification. The vessel owner or intending owner shall contact AUSCLASS as soon as possible with the following information of the vessel:

- vessel Identification, e.g. name or construction number if any
- Name of owner or intending owner
- Hull construction material
- Principal dimensions of vessel
- Nature of the service in which the vessel will be engaged
- Intended area of operations of the vessel
- Gross tonnage(s) or estimated lower and upper limits of gross tonnage(s)
- Whether the vessel is to be classed or is classed
- Whether the vessel will hold or holds a Load Line Certificate and/or Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate issued by AUSCLASS or another Classification Society
- Whether the vessel, being an existing vessel, holds any other certificates relating to survey and if so the type of each certificate, its date of expiry and the authority who issued the certificate.

A new vessel to be constructed or existing vessel to be purchased, chartered or substantially altered for operations, shall require the owner or intending owner to comply with the requirements in the Survey of and Certificate of Survey section and meet all other vessel requirements before the information should be submitted to AUSCLASS for approval

The information submitted shall meet the following requirements:

- Information shall contain sufficient details in order to meet relevant requirements. excessive and irrelevant information shall be removed, and written material shall be in the English language.
- If any doubt exists on the information required to be submitted, clarification shall be obtained by contacting AUSCLASS.
- Print outs shall be in a form that is clear, easy to read and properly identified.
- The number of copies submitted shall allow AUSCLASS to retain at least two copies.

- In the case where a submitted design is amended, or a subsequent design to the initial submission is produce, it shall be submitted to AUSCLASS as soon as possible with a updated plans and specifications that have been affected by the amendment, the date of the amended shall be record.
- Drawings and plans should be submitted in the following scales: 1:1, 1:2, 1:5, or multiples of 10 thereof.

The information to be submitted to AUSCLASS shall be dependent on classification and size of the vessel. The following shall be used as a general guide:

- All the information nominated in the previous clause unless such information has previously been submitted in accordance with that sub-clause
- the general arrangement plans
- the construction plans, including transverse and longitudinal section
- the lines plan
- plans, specifications or data sheets of:
 - (i) scantlings of all members, including fastening methods
 - (ii) closing devices details
 - (iii) bilge pumping arrangements
 - (iv) oil fuel system, including tanks, piping and valves, filling and venting arrangements
 - (v) arrangements for the loading, carriage and discharge of liquid cargoes if applicable
 - (vi) structural fire protection arrangements and fixed fire appliances
 - (vii) the details of the rudder and stern frame, propeller brackets, engine and thrust seatings, propeller shafting, bearings and couplings, steering gear and alternative method of steering
 - (viii) the welding schedule, the laminating schedule or the plastering programme if applicable
 - (ix) electrical equipment and wiring
- the preliminary stability information
- additional plans, information and data as AUSCLASS may require, to determine the proper construction, machinery, equipment and safety of the vessel.

A.6 Appendix A

Refer to the *National Standard for Commercial Vessels (NSCV) Part B, General Requirements Annex A, Methods for Establishing Measured Length*