

OFFICIAL LOG BOOKS**Notice to Shipowners, Masters and Officers of Ro-Ro Passenger Ships.**

1. This notice gives guidance on the recording of draughts, freeboard and stability required by the Merchant Shipping (Loading and Stability Assessment of Ro-Ro Passenger Ships) Regulations 1989 which came into operation (except for Regulation 8) on 20 February 1989.

2. Advice on compliance with the substantive regulations is contained in Merchant Shipping Notice M1366 and in order to assist masters and officers to maintain the necessary records, the Department has produced a new form (AFS/RO/89) which is now available from Marine Offices and the Departments' Central Forms Store, Victoria Road, Ruislip, Middx HA4, free of charge. As with Form AFS/72, which will continue to be available, several sheets can be attached to one Official Log Book (of which they then form part) in order to accommodate the necessary record of the many departures that a ferry will make during the currency of a crew agreement.

3. The following paragraphs explain which forms should be completed by ro-ro passenger ships in different trades and circumstances.

4. *Class IV Ro-Ro Passenger Ships and Ro-Ro Passenger Ships of Classes I, II and II(A) with a maximum cargo deadweight of 400 tonnes to which Appendix 3 of M Notice 1366 refers.*

Masters of these ships must complete page 29 of the Official Log Book as far as is applicable and record the draught and stability on form AFS/RO/89. If the Department has approved conditions of loading for the ship at the berth in question and the actual condition on any sailing corresponds closely to those approved, it will not be necessary to complete columns 15–17 of Form AFS/RO/89. In all other cases the form must be completed with the exception of column 21.

5. *Class I, II or II (A) Ro-Ro Passenger Ships, except those with a maximum cargo deadweight of 400 tonnes to which Appendix 3 of M Notice 1366 refers, on voyages entirely within the Limited European Trading Area.*

Masters of these ships must complete page 29 on opening a new Official Log Book and, when the voyage to be undertaken is entirely within the Limited European Trading Area, Form AFS/RO/89 (with the exception of Column 21) must be completed on each departure. Pages 30–39 of the Official Log Book should be left blank.

6. *Class I, or II Ro-Ro Passenger Ships on voyages outside the Limited European Trading Area.*

When a Class I or II Ro-Ro passenger ship is about to depart on a voyage, any part of which is intended to be outside the limited European Trading Area, the master must, in addition to completing page 29 of the Official Log Book when the book is first opened, make the necessary entries in both pages 30–39 of the Official Log Book and Form AFS/RO/89 (except column 21).

7. *All other vessels*

The masters of all vessels not described in paras 4–6 above must continue to record their draught and freeboard on pages 29–39 of the Official Log Book using additional freeboard sheets (Form AFS/72) as necessary. Form AFS/RO/89 is not appropriate to such vessels.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
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