

---

---

## Provision of Product Data Sheets

### Notice to Shipowners, Masters, Agents and Suppliers

---

---

1. The prevention of risks to the health and safety of a ship's crew is not only a statutory duty but an essential part of the efficient running of a vessel. General advice and information about health and safety on board ship is given in the Department of Transport's publication "Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seamen". However, more specific advice is frequently required to ensure that the wide range of materials and equipment supplied to ships are used in a correct and safe way. Therefore it is essential that suppliers of any materials or equipment for use on a vessel provide comprehensive data sheets and instructions.

2. It is a statutory requirement under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Consumer Protection

Act 1987 for suppliers to provide adequate information about the use for which a product is designed and any precautions which are necessary to ensure safety.

3. The purpose of this notice is to remind Owners, Agents and Masters of ships of their duty to ensure that product data sheets are provided by the suppliers of all goods delivered to a ship for use on board.

4. All product data and instruction sheets should be kept in a safe place and the information made available to all members of the ship's crew who use the materials.

Department of Transport  
Marine Directorate  
London WC1V 6LP  
March 1993

© Crown copyright 1993