

No. M.1627

The Merchant Shipping (Ships' Doctors) Regulations 1995

Notice to Owners, Agents and Masters of Merchant Ships

This notice should be read in conjunction with the above-mentioned Regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. The United Kingdom Government has revised the requirements for ships' doctors in order to implement the terms of EC Directive 92/29 which sets out the minimum safety and health requirements for improved medical treatment on board vessels, in so far as they relate to ships' doctors.

2. The Merchant Shipping (Ships' Doctors) Regulations 1995 (SI No 1803) which came into effect on 1/8/95 revoke the Merchant Shipping (Ships' Doctors) Regulations 1981 (SI No 1065).

3. The regulations state that a qualified doctor must be carried on a United Kingdom ship having more than 100 persons on board and engaged on an international voyage of more than three days or on a voyage during which the ship is more than one and a half days' sailing time from a port with adequate medical equipment.

4. It is the responsibility of the owner to ensure that a properly qualified doctor is on board as required in the regulations.

5. There is a fine on summary conviction for contravention of, or non compliance with, these regulations.

EXEMPTIONS

6. There is no longer any provision for the granting of exemptions from all or any of the requirements of the above Regulations.

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