

PART A

CHAPTER 21

UNITED KINGDOM FISHING VESSEL CERTIFICATE

21.1 Legal Requirements

Fishing vessels over 15 metres overall length and less than 24 metres in registered length must comply with Fishing Vessels (Safety of 15-24 Metre Vessels) Regulations 2002 (SI 2002 No.2201) and the associated 'Code of Safe Working Practice for the Construction and Use of 15 metre length overall to less than 24 metre registered length Fishing Vessels' (MSN 1770(F)) if they fish outside categorised waters as defined in MSN 1837(M). Vessels remaining inside categorised waters should comply with the Fishing Vessels (Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels) Regulations 2001(S.I. 2001 No.9) and do not need to be surveyed or certificated.

21.2 Definitions

21.2.1 The principal definitions relating to the survey and certification of UK fishing vessels less than 24 metres in registered length are described in regulation 2 of SI 2002 No.2201 & SI 2001 No.9 and MSN 1770(F), Chapter 1.2.

21.2.2 Types of FV Survey.

- Category A Survey - all the survey is carried out by the MCA or a Delegated Body with the exception of the radio survey which is carried out by an authorised radio surveyor (See MGN 392 (M+F) Radio Survey Service: Authorisation).
- Category B Survey - hull and machinery survey (FV(SP) Rules 1975, Rules 2-14 and 17-54, is carried out by appointed Classification Society Surveyor(s), The MCA is responsible for the remainder of the survey required by the FV(SP) Rules 1975, MSN 1770. Radio survey carried out by authorised radio surveyor.

21.3 Responsibility

21.3.1 Radio surveys are conducted by an authorised person and Declaration of Radio Survey for Fishing Vessel Certificate (MSF 1820) and Record of Equipment (MSF 1821) forwarded to the MCA, MGN 392 (M&F) refers.

21.3.2 All other items are subject to survey by MCA surveyors, although for vessels which have a current Certificate of Class, classed hull and machinery items will normally be accepted as satisfactory without duplication of survey.

21.3.3 An annual check of the vessel for compliance with the code of practice should be carried out by the owner, following which the **owner** should endorse the appropriate part of the certificate.

21.4 Surveys Required

21.4.1 The HSSC does not apply to fishing vessel certificates. **Vessels are** subject to the following surveys/**inspections**:

- an **Initial Survey**, of all surveyable items by the certifying authority
- an **Annual Self Certification**, by the owner, **at intervals of not more than 12 months**
- an **Intermediate Inspection**, of all surveyable items by the certifying Authority, **not less than 24 months and not more than 36 months from the date of the initial or previous renewal survey**
- a **Renewal Survey**, of all surveyable items by the certifying authority, **prior to the expiry of the Certificate**
- an **Additional Survey**, if and as required

21.5 Pre-Survey Actions

21.5.1 The following items shall be checked prior to commencing the survey:

- SIAS
- MCA Survey Files
- Exemption Certificates
- New Legislative requirements
- Class Survey Status if classed(via password protected websites)

21.5.2 Remarks from previous surveys and outstanding deficiencies must be resolved to the satisfaction of the surveyor before the issue of a renewal UK Fishing Vessel Certificate, or the endorsement of an existing certificate. Any overdue or postponed conditions of class must be followed up with the attending class surveyor or in the absence of a class surveyor discussed with Survey Operations Branch.

21.5.3 Surveys should only be commenced on receipt of a completed "Application for Survey" form (MSF 5100) and after sufficient fees have been received. Further guidance on fees is described in Part C, Chapter 2 of these instructions. **Note that fees are not charged for the intermediate inspection.**

21.5.4 The relevant Business Support Unit administration team processes the application. CERS/SVD must be interrogated to ensure that the correct ship is on the system; if the vessel is not yet on the system (e.g. newbuild, flag-in), the Administrator (TST) should be contacted, who will check the details and arrange for the vessel to be added to the Single Vessel Database (SVD) if appropriate. A **"Survey Works Order"** is produced which is then tracked for charter standard purposes. This is then passed to the Manager, or other

person nominated by them, who then appoints the Lead Surveyor (LS) for the survey.

21.6 Items to be Surveyed

21.6.1 The regulations and code of practice require the survey of the vessel's structure, machinery and equipment, in accordance with the code of practice. This survey is to ensure that the hull structure, main and auxiliary machinery, boilers and other pressure vessels, the electrical system, radio installations, the fire protection arrangements, LSA, navigational equipment, nautical publications, pilot's boarding and embarkation arrangements, navigation lights & signals and the stability data are in compliance with the code of practice and are in all respects, satisfactory.

21.6.2 Further guidance can be found in MSIS 27 Instructions for the Guidance of Surveyors on the 'Survey of Fishing Vessels'.

21.6.3 Aide memoire MSF 5550 **lists** items that should be surveyed and **is** available on the Master List of Documents and SCMS library.

21.6.4 As a result of fishing vessel tonnage re-measurement (SI 1998 No.1916 refers) it has been discovered that the Length Overall and/ or the Registered Length of a number of vessels has been measured or recorded incorrectly. In all but a small number of cases incorrect measurement occurred when the vessels were first measured and registered.

21.6.5 In cases where the re-measured (actual) length is less than previously registered, surveyors should only insist that the vessel comply with the requirements for a vessel of that (re-measured) length. However, it should be recommended to the owner that retention of the current level of equipment would be in the best interest of safety.

21.6.6 In cases where there is an apparent increased length the possibility exists for vessels to be required to comply with additional more onerous requirements than those currently applied. In these cases, the apparent length increases as a result of tonnage re-measurement should not, other than for EU and other International based requirements, alter the application of safety legislation to that vessel.

21.6.7 To record both the original and re-measured lengths (where they have increased) owners of affected vessels are to be issued with a letter (see annex **1**) detailing the previous length(s) with instructions to keep the original with the vessels registration documents and to display the certified copy on board the vessel. In addition, a copy of the letter will be placed on the vessel's construction file and a list of all affected vessels will be supplied to the Principal Fishing Vessel Surveyors.

21.6.8 Where a letter has been issued the vessel should be surveyed (or inspected) for compliance with the requirements based on the previously

recorded lengths. The only exceptions to this are EU and other international based requirements that should correspond to the re-measured length(s).

21.6.9 On completion of survey, additional information will need to be added to the declaration of survey form and to the Fishing Vessel Certificate as follows:

(a) On the Declaration of Survey form a new clause; 'This vessel has been surveyed for compliance with the requirements (other than EU or other international based requirements) as applied to a vessel of **that** length prior to tonnage re-measurement.'

(b) On the Fishing Vessel Certificate an additional entry placed in the Record of Exemptions Granted. In the column entitled 'Relevant Part No. of Rules' the words 'Those non EU or International based requirements relating to a vessel of over [pre re-measurement length overall] length overall or [pre re-measurement registered length] registered length.' should be added. In cases where only one length has changed reference need only be made to that length. Opposite that entry and in the column entitled 'Subject to the following conditions' the words 'Provided that the vessel continues to comply with the requirements as applied prior to tonnage re-measurement.' should be added.

21.6.10 Where changes to requirements occur resulting from re-measurement, and there is no evidence of a letter surveyors should contact Vessel Policy Branch for confirmation of the lengths that should be used for the application of requirements.

21.7 Post Survey Actions

21.7.1 Deficiencies

21.7.1.1 The lead surveyor is responsible for recording and closing out any deficiencies found during the survey/s in the SIAS database, in accordance with the requirements of Part C chapter 4 of these instructions.

21.7.2 Declarations & Certificates

21.7.2.1 The requirements relating to issue of certificates are contained in chapter 1 of the Code of Practice. Upon completion of satisfactory initial/renewal survey a **United Kingdom Fishing Vessel Certificate** (MSF 1325) can be issued for up to 5 years.

21.7.2.2 'Existing' (pre 23 November 2002) vessels may continue to be exempted from certain requirements of the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975 as per agreed policy. A separate certificate for such exemptions is not issued, with the relevant Rule(s) exempted from stated on

the UK Fishing Vessel Certificate. Terms and conditions of the exemptions can be found in the Instructions on 'Survey and Inspection of Fishing Vessels'.

21.7.2.3 On completion of a survey, the lead surveyor prepares the certificate, following the guidance in Part C Chapter 3 of these instructions.

21.7.2.4 Actions to be followed in respect of restoration of lapsed certificates are described in Part B Chapter 2.

21.7.2.5 Intermediate **Inspection** Endorsement

(a) On completion of the intermediate **inspection**, the certificate should be endorsed accordingly.

(b) Any endorsements made to the owner's copy of the certificate should also be recorded on the file copy of the certificate (or by adding a photocopy of the endorsement page to the file), and on the electronic version of the form, on return to the office.

21.7.3 Review of Exemptions

21.7.3.1 Any exemption or equivalents must be reviewed to ensure they are still current and that the qualifying conditions are complied with. Guidance on exemptions and equivalents are described in Pt B, Chapter 4 of these instructions.

21.7.4 Documents & Records

21.7.4.1 The table below describes the minimum documents to be completed and filed following a survey.

Item	Record
Record on SIAS?	Yes MSF 1602/3 survey & inspection deficiencies
Place copy on registered file, CM.../31/01	Yes UK Fishing Vessel Certificate (MSF 1325). Declaration (MSF 1325). Class Declaration (when applicable) Certificate of Class. Radio Survey MSF 1820 & 1821. Documents related to Document Checklist (MSIS 27 Annex 12) Record of Particulars of FV (MSF 1301 &/or 1322). Record of Equipment FV (MSF 1317) MSF1602/3 forms. Stability Verification MSF 2200 or 2202.

	Aide Memoire MSF 5550, if it provides additional information. Intermediate endorsement Other: Drawings (amendments) Photographs (hull & deck gear) Exemptions
Minute required on registered file?	Yes
Report Class Related deficiency to Survey Operations Branch?	Yes (when relevant) MSF 1345

21.8 Fees

21.8.1 The **Survey Works Order** must be closed out and sent to the relevant Business Support Unit so that fee accounts may be balanced and relevant refunds made to the customer.

21.9 Flow Chart

None

21.10 Special Instructions and Guidance

MSIS 27 Guidance for the Survey and Inspection of Fishing Vessels.

Author	S Ireland	Branch	Survey Ops
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Annex 1 Fishing Vessel Tonnage Statement

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

MFV '[VESSEL NAME]', RSS No. [VESSEL RSS NUMBER]

The above named vessel is one of a number of vessels that have been re-measured due to a change in the tonnage requirements. As a result the Registered Length and Length Overall have changed. All safety legislation, other than that which is based on International or EU Directive requirements, should be applied based on a Registered Length of *[PREVIOUS REG. LENGTH]* and Length Overall of *[PREVIOUS LENGTH OVERALL]*. For vessels with a new length to which international Conventions or EU Directive requirements apply (e.g. COLREGS, MARPOL, Harmonisation Directive (Torremolinos Protocol)) no exemption or allowance, in relation to those requirements, is permitted. If you wish to discuss the above or require further clarification or information please contact the Vessel Policy Branch at the above address or by telephone on 02380 329154.

[insert appropriate name at time of issue of Statement]

REGISTRAR GENERAL OF SHIPPING AND SEAMEN

[DATE OF ISSUE]