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## **Maritime Labour Convention, 2006: Health and Safety Published accident statistics - information and advice**

**Notice to all shipowners, ship operators and ship managers; employers of seafarers; masters, officers and seafarers on sea-going ships ordinarily engaged in commercial operations**

*This notice should be read in conjunction with the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997, as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention)(Health and Safety) Regulations 2014  
This MGN replaces MGN 484 (M)*

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### **Summary**

Regulation 7 of the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997, as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Health and Safety) Regulations 2014, requires employers and shipowners to make a suitable and sufficient risk assessment of risks to the health and safety of workers and other seafarers, arising during the normal course of their duties.

In carrying out such a risk assessment, shipowners are required to have regard to the statistical information and associated advice referred to in this Guidance Note.

This Guidance Note gives information about published marine accident statistics and safety advice which are currently available.

MCA expects shipowners to use the relevant information to maintain awareness of hazards and risks which are causing accidents on board ships, and of recommended best practice to avoid occupational accidents.

Amendment 1 updates the links and contact details. There are no other substantive changes.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations (S.I. No.1997/2962), as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention)(Health and Safety) Regulations 2014, (the “Health and Safety Regulations (as amended)”) require the employer and shipowner to make a suitable and sufficient risk assessment of risks to the health and safety of workers and other seafarers, arising during the normal course of their duties. Marine Guidance Note 20(M+F) gives guidance on risk assessments.



- 1.2 In carrying out such a risk assessment, shipowners are required to have regard to the statistical information and associated advice referred to in this Guidance Note.
- 1.3 This implements for the UK Standard A4.3.8 of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.
- 1.4 This requirement does not apply to pleasure vessels, fishing vessels, warships or naval auxiliaries, ships of traditional build, or ships not ordinarily engaged in commercial operations.

## **2. Published statistical information**

### **2.1 Deaths and Personal injuries on UK-registered ships**

- 2.1.1 The Marine Accident Investigation Branch publishes an annual report which includes summary statistics of reported accidents during the reporting year. The most recent report covers the calendar year 2017.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maib-annual-reports>
- 2.1.2 Tables 5, 7, 8 and 9 gives some high-level statistics on the number of injuries and fatalities, the type of injury and the part of the ship where the injury or fatality took place.
- 2.1.3 The Chief Inspector's report highlights some themes and concerns emerging from the investigations undertaken by the Branch during the year.

## **3. Safety alerts**

- 3.1 MAIB Safety Bulletins are produced when urgent safety issues emerge during the course of an investigation and the Chief Inspector decides to disseminate this important information in advance of the main investigation report being produced.  
[http://www.maib.gov.uk/publications/safety\\_bulletins.cfm](http://www.maib.gov.uk/publications/safety_bulletins.cfm)
- 3.2 MAIB also publishes Safety Digests, which contain anonymous articles involving vessels from the merchant, fishing and small craft sector, drawing attention to some of the lessons arising from investigations into recent accidents and incidents.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maib-safety-digests#2018>
- 3.3 The Confidential Hazardous Incident Reporting Programme (CHIRP) publishes quarterly FEEDBACK newsletters for the maritime sector containing a selection of reports (given the reporters consent) combined with CHIRPs response, to make a wider audience aware of situations.  
<https://www.chirpmaritime.org/newsletters/>
- 3.4 MCA publishes on its website safety alerts produced by MCA, other maritime authorities, or by industry bodies to raise awareness of recent safety issues.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maritime-and-coastguard-agency-mca-marine-safety-alerts>
- 3.5 Not all the information published will be of value to all shipowners, and other statistics or sources of advice may be available which are not listed, which are more relevant to a particular operations or shipowners.
- 3.6 MCA expects shipowners to use the relevant information available to maintain awareness of hazards and risks which are causing accidents on board ships, and of recommended best practice to avoid occupational accidents. MCA intends over the next two years to develop more detailed analysis of existing data with a view to improving its



value to the industry for the purposes of informing risk assessments and mitigating safety measures.

**4. References to this Notice in the Health and Safety Regulations (as amended by the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Health and Safety) Regulations 2014)**

4.1 The reference to this Notice in the Health and Safety Regulations (as amended) is identified below. This is the version of Marine Guidance Note 484(M) Amendment 1, which is considered to be relevant until further notice.

4.1.1 Reg 7(4)(A): The statistical information and associated advice to which shipowners should have regard when conducting a risk assessment under Regulation 7 includes the information and advice listed in sections 2 and 3 of this Notice.

**More Information**

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