

# **Fishing Vessel Construction and Outfit Standards**

**Less than 15m LOA**

## **IMPORTANT NOTE**

These Construction Standards define minimum Fishing Vessel Construction standards for the construction, inspection and certification of the hull, and outfit of small commercial fishing vessels. Particular attention is drawn to Part 1 of these Standards with regard to the definition and scope of MCA certification of any new vessel.

In addition, Designers, Builders, Operators and Owners should ensure that they comply with the relevant Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels of less than 15 Metres in Length and also such International Convention requirements as may be applicable.

## Introduction

**These Construction Standards can be used as guidance to anyone wishing to build a new vessel, but only MCA or a Fishing Vessel Certifying Authority can certify a new vessel to these Standards.**

**All Plan and Drawing Approvals are conducted by the MCA. See Section 23 Drawings, Markings and Trials. Furthermore, only MCA can survey vessels of 12m Registered Length and over.**

**Fishing vessels of less than 12m Registered Length can be surveyed by a Fishing Vessel Certifying Authority which has a signed and valid a Fishing Vessel Certifying Authority Agreement with the MCA.**

These Standards were originally developed by the Marine Survey Department of the Sea Fish Industry Authority (Seafish) through close consultation between the MCA, (Maritime and Coastguard Agency, an Executive Agency of the Department of Transport), Specialist Marine Equipment Manufacturers, Fishing Vessel Builders, and Fishing Industry Representatives, under the direction of a Standards Review Committee on which the following organisations were represented:-

Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers Association  
Maritime and Coastguard Agency  
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations  
Northern Ireland Fishermen's Federation  
Scottish Fishermen's Federation

These Standards will now be reviewed by the Fishing Vessel Construction Standards Working Group at intervals not exceeding five years to take into account experience gained in their application, and any new statutory requirements will be applied to new vessels as applicable to these Standards.

Where new standards are developed and finalised by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), European Union (EU), the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), International Standards Organisation (ISO) or British Standards (BS) which impact upon the requirements of these Standards, amendment may be considered immediately and implemented by means of a Marine Information Note (MIN).

## How you can contact us

### Plan Approval Process

Before building a vessel, drawing approval is required for the vessel intended to be built. If you are building a one-off vessel an Application for Survey and Inspection of Ships and Fishing Vessels (form MSF 5100) and Additional Information (form MSF 1356) should be submitted to the Marine Office closest to where the vessel is to be built. A list of Marine Offices can be found on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency/about/access-and-opening>

If you would like the drawing approval to be dealt with separately, such as when multiple boats are to be built from the same set of drawings, then please clearly indicate this on the Additional Information form MSF 1356. The application should then be sent to:

MCA Plan Approval Unit  
Albex House  
1 Marchfield Drive  
Paisley  
Renfrewshire  
PA3 2RB

Alternatively, applications and drawings can be submitted electronically to:  
[stability.unit@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:stability.unit@mcga.gov.uk)

On receipt of the Application and additional information a lead surveyor will be nominated by the Marine Office or Plan Approval Unit. Once nominated, an estimate of fees will be provided.

### Construction Process

Addresses, telephone numbers (including those with twenty-four hour answering machines) and emails for all our Marine Survey offices are given below.

## **MCA [Marine Offices](#)**

### **Aberdeen Marine Office**

Marine House  
Blaikies Quay  
Aberdeen  
AB11 5EZ

Email [Aberdeenmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:Aberdeenmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 0203 817 2001

Counter services:  
Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00  
Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:  
Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00  
Friday 09:00 – 16:30

### **Belfast Marine Office**

Bregenz House  
Quay Street  
Bangor  
BT20 5ED

Email [belfastmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:belfastmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 381 72012

Counter services:  
Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00  
Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:  
Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00  
Friday 09:00 – 16:30

## **Cardiff Marine Office**

Anchor Court  
Keen Road  
Cardiff  
CF24 5JW

Email [cardiffmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:cardiffmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 390 85222

Counter services:

Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00

Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:

Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00

Friday 09:00 – 16:30

## **Colchester Marine Office**

Iceni Way  
Colchester  
Essex  
CO2 9BY

Email [colchestermo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:colchestermo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 390 85165

Public Counter Services:

Monday to Thursday: 09:00 – 16:00

Friday: 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone Queries:

Monday to Thursday: 09:00 – 17:00

Friday: 09:00 – 16:30

## **Glasgow Marine Office**

Albex House  
Marchfield Drive  
Paisley  
PA3 2RB

Email [glasgowmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:glasgowmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 381 72011

Counter services:  
Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00  
Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:  
Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00  
Friday 09:00 – 16:30

## **Hull Marine Office**

Crosskill House  
Mill Lane  
Beverley  
East Yorkshire  
HU17 9JB

Email [hullmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:hullmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 381 72018

Counter services:  
Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00  
Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:  
Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00  
Friday 09:00 – 16:30

## **Liverpool Marine Office**

Hall Road West  
Crosby  
Liverpool  
Merseyside  
L23 8SY

Email [liverpoolmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:liverpoolmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 390 85110

Counter services:  
Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00  
Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:  
Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00  
Friday 09:00 – 16:30

## **Plymouth Marine Office**

Suite 5  
Endeavour House  
Oceansgate  
Vivid Approach  
Plymouth  
PL1 4RW

Email [plymouthmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:plymouthmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone +44 (0) 20 390 85245

Counter services:  
Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00  
Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:  
Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00  
Friday 09:00 – 16:30



## **Southampton Marine Office**

Spring Place  
105 Commercial Road  
Southampton  
SO15 1EG

Email [southamptonmo@mcga.gov.uk](mailto:southamptonmo@mcga.gov.uk)

Marine office phone 020 381 72210

Counter services:

Monday to Thursday – 09:00 – 16:00

Friday – 09:00 – 15:30

Telephone query time:

Monday – Thursday 09:00 – 17:00

Friday 09:00 – 16:30

## **Complaints**

If you have a complaint then please see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency/about/complaints-procedure>

**CONSTRUCTION  
STANDARDS  
for  
new fishing vessels  
less than 15 metres  
length overall**



# CONTENTS

**Part 1        General requirements**

**Part 2        Drawings, marking and trials**

## **STANDARDS FOR HULL CONSTRUCTION**

**Part 3        Hull integrity and arrangement**

**Part 4        Steel and aluminium construction**

**Part 5        Welding**

**Part 6        GRP construction**

**Part 7        Wood construction**

## **STANDARDS FOR OUTFIT**

**Part 8        Machinery installations**

**Part 9        Pumping and piping systems**

**Part 10       Electrical installations**

**Part 11       Outfit and structural fire protection**