Defence
Safety Authority

DSA03 – DMR Regulatory Terms and Definitions

Defining the terms in DMR regulations



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Welcome Introduction



The Defence Maritime Regulator (DMR) was established to protect people and the environment from harm arising from Defence maritime activity.

The Defence Safety Authority (DSA) has tasked DMR to provide regulation, assurance and enforcement across the Defence maritime domain. This comprises all Defence maritime activity, which includes MOD shipping (includes but is not limited to) warships, submarines, landing craft and boats across Defence, Defence ports, harbours and marine facilities and Defence diving, both Military and commercially contracted diving in support of Defence activities.

The Defence regulations set out in this document are the minimum standards to be adopted for safety and environmental protection across the MOD's portfolio. They are mandatory and full compliance is required.

It is the responsibility of Accountable Person(s) within the scope of these regulations to ensure that personnel, including contractors, involved in the conduct of Defence maritime activities are fully aware of their responsibilities.

Alan Tracey

Defence Maritime Regulator

1 November 2026

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Edition record

Edition	Key Changes
Issue 1.0 01 November 2025	Initial issue transferred from previous issue of Regulatory Terms and Definitions document last published 2019. This issue includes an extensive re-write and removal of numerous unused or terms deemed not required.
Issue 2.0 07 October 2026	Addition of definitions for Accident, Marine Casualty and Marine Incident. Addition of definition for Assure and Ensure Addition of definition for Waiver Crown official renamed and standardised to Crown Servant

Introduction

Defence Safety Authority publications

The Defence Safety Authority (DSA) sets out rules and standards for Defence Health, Safety and Environmental Protection (HS&EP) in three broad levels of publications that are consistent with the DSA charter:
Level 1 – DSA01 Departmental Policy for Defence HS&EP;
Level 2 – DSA02 Defence Regulations owned by Defence Regulators; and
Level 3 – DSA03: Regulatory Guidance publications Rules published by DMR's duly-authorised organisations. e.g.

- DSA03 Guide to Registration of MOD Shipping
- DSA03 DMR: Naval Authority Rules for Certification of MOD Shipping
- DSA03 DMR: Naval Authority Rules for the Control of Explosives Risk from MOD Shipping at a Berth
- DSA03 DMR: Regulatory Terms and Definitions
- DSA03 DMR: Maritime Autonomous Systems (MAS) Guide

There are also DSA guidance publications providing background information and additional explanation, to illustrate acceptable means of compliance and assist the application of the regulation.

These regulatory terms are aligned, as far as possible, with wider DSA definitions. It includes reference to the regulatory publication in which the word or phrase can be found.

Document Purpose

To assist in compliance with Defence Safety Regulatory Publications. The purpose of this document is to provide a single source of commonly used regulatory terms, phrases and acronyms used in DMR publications. This document provides the authoritative definitions for use in the Maritime regulatory domain, which comprises MOD Shipping, Ports and Harbours and Defence Diving.

Rationale

The use of a common lexicon enables shared understanding across the community and provides definitions that may be adopted by the community. All accountable persons should understand the meanings of words and concepts used in Defence maritime regulatory publications and be aware of the differences in other domains.

Important note

These definitions apply to all DSA02-DMR and DSA03-DMR publications.

- The term **must** indicates a legal requirement and will have the legal provenance referenced.
- The term **shall** indicates a Defence Regulation where compliance is mandatory and the source of the regulation will be referenced in the provenance section.
- The term ***should*** indicates one or more Risk Control Option (RCO) considered to be good practice and sufficient to demonstrate acceptable means of compliance with the regulation it is beneath. Other alternative approaches may be suitable where they produce an outcome to the mutual satisfaction of Duty Holder and Regulator that is at least as good as the means proposed.

Regulatory Terms and Definitions
Table 1

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
Acceptable means of Compliance (AMC)	A recognised method of achieving the intent of a Regulation clause. Guidance will generally be written in the permissive sense (using the permissive verb **should**) in order to allow a Regulated Entity to consider alternative approaches. [MAA02]	**All Regulations**
Accountable / Accountability	A duty of care required of a named person to justify personal actions or decisions for activities, made within their area of responsibility for an activity. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Accident	A marine accident or near miss involving a Marine Casualty or a Marine Incident (See also Marine Casualty or Marine Incident)	**DSA02 - #407**
Accountable Person	Accountable Person (AP), is a person holding Accountability for the activity who is empowered to make safety-related executive decisions. [RDM]	**DSA02 - #101**
Activity / Activities	A generic term for the process, operation or action in pursuit of a Defence Task. An activity will trigger one or more events presenting a hazard to people, fauna or flora using a physical system or platform; within a management arrangement at a physical location. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Affected Service Activity / Activities	Military activities conducted by Civil Registered ships (Government owned, commercially operated (GOCO), commercially owned, Government operated (COGO) and commercially owned, commercially operated (COCO)) listed in Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the MOD and Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA) as beyond certified civil activities. [MOD, MCA, MAIB MOU]	**MOU between MOD, MCA and Maritime Accident & Investigation Bureau (MAIB)**
Approval to Authorise MOD Shipping (AtAMS)	A document issued by DMR that should be accepted as evidence that the holding organisation is capable of complying with the requirements of DSA02-DMR Regulations. [DMR}	**DSA02 - #202**
Area of Responsibility (AoR)	The physical area, activities, or operational parameters for which an individual or organisation has direct control over or delegated authority for financial matters. [JSP 375]	**DSA02 - #201**

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
Argument	Defined as a connected series of claims intended to establish an overall claim. In attempting to persuade others of the truth of an overall claim, supporting claims are used. These claims may themselves need further support. Ultimately, claims should be supported by reference to evidence. This gives rise to a hierarchy of claims (representing a logical chain of reasoning supported by evidence) by which an argument is established. [GSN Community Standard V1]	**DSA02 - #402**
As Low as Reasonably Practicable (ALARP)	A risk is ALARP when it has been demonstrated that the cost of any further Risk Reduction, where the cost includes the loss of defence capability as well as financial or other resource costs, is disproportionate to the benefit obtained from the risk reduction. [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #703**
Assumption	An assumption is a statement that is taken as being true for the purposes of planning or other decision making, but that is not yet an established fact. Assumptions are usually reserved for cases where a change in the assumption would have a material bearing on the plan or decision. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #404**
Assure	Assurance is the process of providing confidence to the Accountable Person that activities, systems, and controls are operating effectively, safely, and in compliance with MOD policies, regulations, and risk management requirements.	**DSA02- #204**
Assurance Framework	A structured means of identifying, linking and coordinating the main sources of assurance in an organisation to best effect. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #801**
Audit	The systematic examination of the activities and status of an entity, based primarily on investigation and analysis of its systems, controls and records. [JSP 375]	**DSA02 - #101**
Auditor	A person suitably qualified and experienced to conduct audits. [Dictionary]	**DSA02 - #901**
Authorise / Authorisation (of a document)	To give authority to, to give permission to. To confirm a document has been checked by a person in authority. [Dictionary]	**DSA02 - #303**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Authority / Authorities	A Person, themselves competent individually or leading an organisation who is charged with Duty Holder facing responsibility to systematically ensure the fitness for purpose of a specified group of activities, systems or management arrangements through life and to make decisions or approve changes. They may authorise, endorse, and recommend good practice and is accountable for their advice. [DMR]	**DSA02 #200 series**
Autonomy	A vessel that can operate without human intervention, related to one or more ship functions, for the full or limited periods of the ship operations or voyage. [Do we need to say where it comes from?]	**MAS Guide**
Berthed	The activity of berthing next to another ship or a jetty, quay, dock or harbour infrastructure using the ships' systems. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #618**
Case for Certification	Definition for Naval Authority Certification and case for Certification can be found in the Naval Authority documentation. [DSA03-DMR Naval Authority Rules for Certification of MOD Shipping, Sep 2023.]	**Naval Authority Rules**
Certificates for Clearance and Use (CCU)	Certificates of Clearance for Use (CCUs) are required for all new equipment that are in service. The CCU gives a Ship authorisation to use a given equipment within the constraints it details. Any limitations necessary to ensure safe operation of the equipment are specified and promulgated in the CCU. [DSA03-DMR Naval Authority Rules for Certification of MOD Shipping, Sep 2023.]	**DSA02- #308**
Certification	Assurance given by an independent certification body that a product, service or system meets the requirements of a standard. [DSA]	**DSA02 - #206**
Certification Strategy	The Certification Strategy is the formal agreement between the Naval Authority and the Platform Authority and is tailored to a specific Ship or class of Ship, and against which compliance is determined through design, build and during operational service life of the Ship. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #208**
Clauses	Definition for clauses can be found in the Naval Authority documentation DSA03-DMR Naval Authority Rules for Certification of MOD Shipping, Sep 2023.	**DSA02 - #605**
Combat Safety	The identification and management of hazards from hostile acts, where they may harm personnel. [NAG]	**DSA02 - #201**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Combat Safety Summary (CSS)	Annex to the Command Safety and Environmental Summary (CSES) that summarises the consequences of hostile activity to individuals by providing guidance on weapon effects and how that may affect understanding of the design intent, given the material state and standard operating procedures. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #608**
Command Safety and Environmental Summary (CSES)	A summary of the Safety Case Report produced to baseline Sea Clearance and inform a Ship's Commanding Officer of the safe and environmentally sound operating envelope of a ship by identifying the key limitations imposed by design parameters, Naval Authority Certification, risk assessment and combat safety. The CSES is a prerequisite of a Safety Management Certificate (SMC) being awarded. A distillation of the safety case report providing essential information for the in-service/operational commanding officer or manager of a system or operator of a service to manage operating risk. [DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, issue 8]	**DSA02 - #306**
Commanding Officer (CO)	A Service person in charge of a specific Establishment or Unit or Platform. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #206**
Commercial Diving	Commercial diving is an application of professional diving at work where divers engage in diving projects in construction, engineering, maintenance or other tasks which are similar to those done out of the water, where the diving is usually secondary to the work and the intent is to make profit from the activity.	**DSA02 - #803**
Competence	The ability to perform a particular skill or range of skills to a prescribed standard, under prescribed conditions. It is a combination of the theoretical and practical knowledge and experience of the relevant subject matter. [Adapted from MAA02]	**DSA02 - #201**
Compliance Statement	A written claim summarising the evidence that MOD regulated Shipping, Ports and Harbours, or Diving, meets the requirements of legislation or regulation. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #402**
Condition of Certification (Major / Minor)	Defined by the Naval Authority in DSA03 Naval Authority Rules for Certification of MOD Shipping Sep 2025. [NA Rules]	**Naval Authority Rules**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Crew	A body of personnel (whose usual employment is under a merchant ship crew agreement or military Unit Employment List) to conduct shipping activities as directed by a Ship's Master or a Commanding Officer. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #206**
Crown Servant	A person employed by, or in the service of, the Government of the United Kingdom. [Armed Forces (Service Inquiries) Regulations 2008]	**DSA02 Scope**
Dangerous Goods	Dangerous goods" means goods or cargoes, whether packaged or in bulk, which meet the criteria in the IMDG Code for classification as dangerous goods. [Harbour Areas Regulations 2016]	**DSA02- #617**
Dangerous Occurrences	A number of specific, reportable adverse events, as defined in the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations. [RIDDOR]	**DSA02 - #406**
Defence Diver	A Ministry of Defence Crown Servant who Dives. [JSP 286 Pt 2 Para 21]	**DSA03 Defence Diving Rules**
Defence Diving	When a Defence Diver conducts a MOD sponsored Diving Activity. [JSP 286 Pt 2 Para 21]	**DSA02 – #101**
Defence Legislation Support Tool (DLST)	An electronic database of relevant and applicable HS&EP legislation; maintained on behalf of Defence Safety Authority Regulators. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #402**
Defence Lines of Development (DLOD)	Defence Line of Development (DLOD), provides a way of view a programme, set of programmes or strategy from a specific perspective. In a sense it provides a means for the MoD for matrix management of a programme or strategy. There are 9 DLODs: which include Training, Equipment, Personnel, Information, Concepts and Doctrine, Organisation, Infrastructure, Logistics and Interoperability (Overarching Theme) [RDM]	**DSA02 - #407**
Defence Maritime Regulator (DMR)	DMR is part of the Defence Safety Authority (DSA) and is the Defence Regulator responsible for the regulation of HS&EP in the defence maritime domain. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #202**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Defence Regulation	A prescribed rule or authoritative directive within the context of Defence Regulation and defined as an overarching mandatory activity which shall be followed without exception (unless a waiver or exemption has been formally issued). [DMR]	**DSA02 - #211**
Defence Safety Authority (DSA)	The Defence Safety Authority is an independent organisation, empowered by charter from SofS to undertake the roles of regulator, accident investigation and Defence Authority for safety. It consists of a number of Defence Regulators who cover different domains. For example, DMR who cover the maritime domain. [DSA]	**DSA02 - #101**
DSA Charter	Signed by the SofS Defence, the DSA Charter sets out the roles, responsibilities and accountabilities of the DSA. [DMR]	**DSA02**
Defence Safety and Environment Committee (DSEC)	A Head Office team that have been appointed to oversee the policy and strategy and establishing a Defence Safety and Environment Committee. The Committee will bring together all the various parts of Defence at the most senior level to consider issues and risks across the Department, and ultimately make Defence safer, both for our own people and wherever we are working in the world. [RDM]	**DSA Charter**
Defence Standard (DEFSTAN)	Defence Standard means a technical specification the observance of which is not compulsory and which is approved by a standardisation body specialising in the production of technical specifications for repeated or continuous application in the field of defence [RDM]	**DSA02 - #302**
Derogation, Exemption, or Disapplication (DED)	A Derogation, Exemption, or Disapplication (collectively known as DEDs) where, A derogation (a relaxation of a statutory requirement, to allow the law to be applied differently for justifiable practical or operational reasons), an exemption (a formal written authorisation for all or a part of specific legislation or Defence regulation to not apply) or a disapplication (where all or part of specific legislation does not apply to Defence). [DSA01.1]	**DSA02 - #402**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Design Authority / Authorities	The DA is responsible for developing and maintaining the ship/system/equipment design to support the delivery of the Platform Authority role. Provide configuration management of the design, including reliable information relating to the operation and maintenance of the ship/system or equipment. – Amended from MAP 01-020 2007, para 2.9.2.7	**DSA02 - #208**
Design Description	A mandatory component of any safety case containing all the design information and concepts of usage for a reasonably foreseeable material state. The Design Authority will hold elements of this, in conjunction with the holder of the safety management plan and safety management system. [DMR]	**Not Used**
Designated Person Ashore	A competent engineer or operator within the organisation who has direct access to the highest levels of management, providing a link between a Duty Holder and those on-board. [Adapted from the ISM Code]	**DSA02 - #207**
Disposal	The final phase of the CADMID lifecycle. Disposal phase involves carrying out plans for efficient, effective and safe and environmentally sound disposal of the equipment. [Adapted from Knowledge in Defence (KiD)]	**DSA02 - #101**
Diving Contractor	A person or firm that undertakes diving under contract (by MOD) to deliver diving services. [Dictionary]	**DSA02 - #803**
Diving Project	Any activity, made up of one or more diving operations, in which at least one person takes part or will take part as a diver and extends from the time when that person, or the first such person, commences to prepare to dive until that person, or the last such person, has left the water, chamber or other environment in which the dive, or any part of the dive, took place and has completed any requisite decompression procedures, including, where it may be reasonably anticipated that this will be needed, any therapeutic recompression.	**DSA02 - #210**
Diving Project Plan	A document prepared in accordance with DSA02-DMR Regulations 210 & 803.	**DSA02 - #210**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Dockyard	any port, harbour, haven, roadstead, sound, channel, creek, bay, or navigable river of the United Kingdom in, on, or near to which Her Majesty now or at any time hereafter has any dock, dockyard, steam factory yard, victualling yard, arsenal, wharf, or mooring: [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Duly Authorised Person (DAP) or Organisation (DAO)	A person or organisation, internal to the Ministry of Defence that demonstrates competence, accredited to provide second party assurance of the conduct of an activity to a Duty Holder and considered by the Regulator to significantly affect the safety or environmental protection of MOD Shipping activities, as responsibilities go beyond their normal managerial duties or across line responsibilities (e.g. being charged with audit, overseeing, accepting test and trials, conducting surveys and inspections to certify). [Dockyard Ports Regulation Act 1865]	**DSA02 - #202**
Duty Holders	Duty Holders (DHs) are individuals who have a duty of care for the personnel under their command; those who, by virtue of their temporary involvement in aviation activities, come within an DH's Area of Responsibility (AoR); and the wider public who may be affected by their operations. They are thus legally accountable for the safe operation of systems in their AoR and for ensuring that Risks to Life are As Low As Reasonably Practicable and Tolerable. (DHs roles and responsibilities are defined in JSP 815)	**DSA02 - #306**
Duty of Care	The legal obligations which ensure the safety or well-being of employees and others who may be affected by the acts or omissions of a person or organisation. [RDM]	**DSA02 - #101**
Emission Control Area (ECA)	An area where the adoption of special mandatory measures for SOx emissions from ships is required to prevent, reduce and control air pollution from SOx and its attendant adverse impacts on land and sea areas. [MARPOL]	**DSA02 - #611**
Endorse / Endorsement	To assert that a document meets the requirements of relevant policy, procedures and good practice. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #401**
Enforcement Action	Action taken by the Regulator when failures to meet regulatory requirements have been identified. There are several levels of enforcement action described in DMR guide to the DMR assurance model. [DSA1.2]	**A Guide to the DMR Assurance Model**

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
Ensure	Ensurance (or “to ensure”) refers to the operational actions taken to make certain that activities are carried out as planned, risks are controlled, and required outcomes (e.g. safe and timely delivery) are achieved.	**DSA02-#201**
Environment	Surroundings which a system or organisation effects, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, and their interrelation with humans (third-parties). [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #101**
Environmental Aspect	Element of an organization’s activities or products or services that interacts or can interact with the environment. [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #209**
Environmental Damage	Damage to surroundings which a system or organisation effects, including air, water, land, natural resources, flora, fauna, and their interrelation with humans (third-parties). [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #501**
Environmental Impact	Is an adverse or beneficial change to the environment resulting from the organisation's environmental aspects. [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #201**
Environmental Protection	Practices and procedures that are designed to avoid, minimize, eliminate, or reverse damage to the environment and to environmental systems. [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #101**
Environmental Risk	Is the chance, however large or small, that an item, event, activity, or situation could cause damage to the environment. [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #306**
Environmentally Sound	An environmental management system which is used to manage environmental aspects, fulfil compliance obligations, mitigate unintended events and address risks and opportunities. [JSP 418]	**DSA02 - #301**
Equipment Authority	The Organisation charged with the procurement, development and maintenance of the Management Regime (which may include the design authority) for equipment or a subsystem of a ship or maritime equipment. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #208**
Best Practice	A best practice is a method or technique that has been generally accepted as superior to alternatives because it tends to produce superior results. Best practices are used to achieve quality as an alternative to mandatory standards. Best practices can be based on self-assessment or benchmarking. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #608**

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
Guidance	Advice or information aimed at providing a consistent approach to an issue or subject as given by an authority in order to provide additional explanation, assist in application of a regulation or help illustrate meaning. Will assist in compliance as part of good practice. [JSP 375]	**DSA02 - #301**
Harbour Master	A harbourmaster is an official responsible for enforcing the regulations of a particular harbour or port, in order to ensure the safety of navigation, the security of the harbour and the correct operation of the port facilities. [Adapted from International Harbour Masters Association]	**DSA02 - #610**
Hazard	A situation with the potential to cause adverse impact on people, including fatality, physical or psychological injury or damage to health [DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, Issue 8]	**DSA02 - #206**
Human Factor	The interaction between; people and people, people and machine, people and procedures and people and the environment. The understanding and application of physical, physiological and behavioural factors in the design, operation, Maintenance and management of aerial systems to optimise Safety, performance and capacity. It is multidisciplinary, and embraces individuals, teams and organizations. [MAA02]	**DSA02 - #407**
Incident	An event over an unspecified time or activity that results in levels harm, below the level of an accident but may be reportable under Regulation. (see also Marine incident) [RDM]	**DSA02 - #206**
Independent Safety Auditor and Independent Safety Environmental Auditor (ISEA) and Independent Safety Auditor	A competent and suitably qualified individual or team responsible for reviewing the operation of safety related management systems and safety related process compliance [RDM]	**DSA02 - #901**
Inspect / Inspection	To gain assurance by systematic and documented verification process that ~~objectively~~ obtains and evaluates evidence to determine whether specified activities, events, conditions, analysis or information output from management systems conforms to inspection criteria. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #308**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Investigation	Activity carried out by an independent, impartial, professional, and credible safety investigation organisation or team to prevent reoccurrence following an accident or incident. To establish facts by the evaluation of systematic examination, research and evidence gathering. It includes the collection and analysis of evidence, the identification of causal and contributory (aggravating) factors and the making of observations and safety recommendations, as necessary. [JSP 375]	**DSA02 - #403**
Letter of Delegation (LoD)	Formal method of delegating a person with responsibilities as defined in JSP 815. [JSP 815]	**DSA02 - #202**
Maritime Activity / Activities	Activities in the maritime operating environment or domain (whether or not by MOD personnel, including diving, port or MOD Shipping activities), combining civil activities and military activities, and which are subject to Defence Regulation. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Marine Casualty	An event, or a sequence of events, that has occurred directly in connection with the operation of a ship and has resulted in any of the following— (a) the death of, or serious injury to, a person, other than death resulting from suicide or natural causes or serious injury resulting from attempted suicide; (b) the loss of a person from a ship; (c) the loss, presumed loss or abandonment of a ship; (d) material damage to a ship; (e) the stranding or disabling of a ship, or the involvement of a ship in a collision; (f) material damage to marine infrastructure external to a ship, that could seriously endanger the safety of the ship, another ship or any individual; (g) severe damage to the environment, or the potential for severe damage to the environment caused by damage to a ship or ships;	**DSA02 - #407**
Marine Incident	An event, or a sequence of events, other than a marine casualty, that has occurred directly in connection with the operation of a ship and has endangered or, if not corrected, would endanger the safety of a ship, its occupants or any other person or the environment;	**DSA02 - #407**
Maritime Autonomous System (MAS)	Used to encompass a vessel and all associated onboard, offboard and RCC systems. [extracted from IMO MASS UK Industry Conduct Principles & Code of Practice V4 Nov 20]	**Not used**

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
MOD Port Duty Holder	Accountable Person, appointed by Letter of Authority (LOA) with responsibility for the safe and environmentally sound operation of the MOD Port, and of all conduct within the MOD Port. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #211**
MOD Ports and Harbours	MOD Port refers to all UK and overseas MOD operated Ports, Harbours and Marine Facilities. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
MOD Shipping	Ships owned by, operated by or operated on behalf of the Ministry of Defence. This includes Warships, Government Ships and any shipping services provided under Charter, a Financial or a Managed Service, employed on Defence Activity for the benefit of the Crown. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Must	Indicates a legal requirement and will have the legal provenance referenced. [DSA 03 Regulatory Terms and Definitions]	**Introduction**
Naval Authority	A DMR Duly Authorised Organisation, independent of Duty Holders and which is accredited to provide certification for specified hazard areas. The Naval Authority identifies and develops standards and Rules as well as providing advice and guidance on good practice relating to the Key hazard areas it covers. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #208**
Near Miss / Misses	An unintended event that is an unsafe or hazardous condition with the potential to, but did not on this occasion, cause harm. [RDM]	**DSA02 - #206**
Corrective action report	Identified process, procedure or regulation has not been fulfilled to the satisfaction of the lead auditor and may result in a Corrective Action Report (CAR) or enforcement action. Non-conformities are graded depending on the context and its risks. DMR uses qualitative grading. The categories of nonconformances are: [Adapted from ISO19011:2011 and ISM Code 2018]	**DSA02 - #609**
Non conformity	This is a type of enforcement action which could be raised if it demonstrated that an organisation has failed to maintain the corrective actions as defined and agreed during an assessment or an audit. [Assurance Guide]	**DSA02**

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
Objective Evidence	Quantitative or qualitative information, records or statements of fact pertaining to safety or to the existence and implementation of a safety management system or element (Risk Control System), which is based on observation, measurement or test and which can be verified. [ISM Code 2018]	**DSA02 - #306**
Observation	A statement of fact made during a safety management audit and substantiated by Objective Evidence. Observations may be recorded by the audit team to provide benefit to the audited Organisation but do not relate to a conformance issue. Observations may identify positive or negative findings. [ISM Code 2018]	**DSA02 - #701**
Operate Safely	The collective assessment of each RCS by the accountable person (usually the Delivery Duty Holder) that a shipping activity is collectively safe across DLOD's, given a specific operational context and awareness. See also 'Safe to Operate'. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #906**
Operating Envelope	A set of limits calculated by formal and structured methods to define the nature of a system, and levels of uncertainty inside which risks are ALARP for a group of "reasonably foreseeable" activities, during 'normal' running operation. Where it becomes desirable to operate outside the envelope (on either an occasional or enduring basis), it includes the calculation of safety and environmental margins. The use of certified margins to manage fluctuations in dynamic risk management during day to day operations or to tolerate risk from occasional "abnormal" activities for defined operations or maintenance, as foreseen or defined, and documented within the authorised platform Safety Case. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #208**
Operational Imperative	A set of circumstances tolerated by an Operating Authority that would take the use of the system outside the scope of an operating envelope from a Safety and/or Environmental Case and summarised CSES, that deem it essential to achieve an operational objective or Defence Task. Hazards arising from military risk must be disseminated to users and agreed by the operational duty holder (ODH). [DSA01.4 Master Glossary]	**DSA02 - #307**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Organisational Baseline	An organisational safety baseline is a comprehensive starting point that assesses the current state of safety culture, processes, and potential hazards within an organization. It involves establishing benchmarks through risk assessments and safety culture surveys to identify weaknesses and compare performance over time and against industry standards. This baseline then provides a clear understanding of risks, informs strategic safety improvements, and helps track progress towards a safer work environment. [Adapted from Google]	**DSA02 - #202, 404 and 405**
Organisation and Arrangements (O&A)	The functions, resources and administration to achieve one or more requirement, objective or activity of a Defence Enterprise, and to enable discharge of responsibilities. A Defence Enterprise is a company, corporation, military or crown authority, budget area or institution (or part there of – constituted or not, public or private), tasked to conduct an activity on behalf of the MOD. [Adapted from ISO 14001:2015]	**DSA02 - #201**
Platform	The term for a system or maritime vessel or vessel type / class which are registered on the DSR [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Platform Authority / Authorities	The competent person granted the authority to deliver a platform's HS&EP artifacts & arrangements, and to ensure delivery of the Design Authority function on behalf of the Accountable Person. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #201**
Port Authority / Authorities	An agency with powers to maintain and control a port. [Black's Law Dictionary]	**DSA02 - #610**
Principle	Fundamental truth(s) or doctrines of law; comprehensive rules or doctrines which furnish a basis or origin for others; settled rules of action, procedure, or legal determination. [Black's Law Dictionary]	**DSA02 - #407**
Quality Assurance (QA)	Part of quality management focused on providing confidence that quality requirements will be fulfilled [ISO 9000:2015]	**DSA02 - #401**
Quality Control (QC)	Part of quality management focused on fulfilling quality requirements. [ISO 9000:2015]	**DSA02 - #401**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Registration	The act of adding a platform to the UKDSR. Done iaw the DMR registration process. [DMR]	**Not Used**
Registration Committee	As part of a ship's registration, the DMR Registrar of MOD Shipping should convene a Registration Committee of at least the Naval Authority, Platform Authority and Operating Duty Holder, to decide the applicable hazard areas to be certified, based on the agreed platform type. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #602**
Regulation	A rule or directive made and maintained by an authority. [LEXICO]	**All Regulations**
Regulator	The Defence Maritime Regulator (DMR) is the maritime section of the Defence Safety Authority (DSA), [DSA]	**DSA02 - #101**
Responsible	having an obligation to do something, or having control over or care for someone, as part of one's job or role. [Dictionary]	**DSA02 - #208**
Risk	Risk is a hazard which has its likelihood multiplied by its severity" to determine its risk figure. The risk needs to be held at an appropriate level and by someone who understands the risk and is content to hold the risk. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #201**
Risk Control System (RCS)	A formal management process in which specific risk areas are considered in order to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that such accidents, incidents or near misses are minimised. [DSA01.4 Master Glossary]	**DSA02 - #209**
Risk Management	The process whereby decisions are made to accept a known or assessed risk and/or the implementation of actions to reduce the consequences or probability of occurrence. [BS4778-3.2-1991]	**DSA02 - #608**
Safe to Operate	A declaration that a platform is safe to be operated within the confines of its operating envelope. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #208**
Safety	Risk Management (RM), is the process that encompasses hazard identification; risk assessment; hazard risk matrix; risk reduction; and risk monitoring and review [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**

Term	**Definition** [source]	First Used
Safety and Environmental Management System	Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS), is the system employed by an organisation to implement, manage and assure safety and environmental protection Legislative & Regulatory compliance and conformance with Policy and other articles required by that system. [RDM]	**DSA02 - #203**
Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS)	The organisational structure, processes, procedures and methodologies that enable the direction and control the activities necessary to meet Safety or Environmental Requirements and policy objectives. [Adapted from DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, Issue 8]	**DSA02 - #203**
Safety and Environmental Case (SEC)	A body of evidence containing a structured argument, that provides a compelling, comprehensible, and valid case that a system is safe and environmentally sound for a given application in a given operating environment. [Adapted from DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, Issue 8]	**DSA02 - #206**
Safety and/or Environmental Case Report (SECR)	A report that summarises the arguments and body of evidence of the Safety and Environmental Case and documents progress against the Safety and Environmental Management Plan. [Adapted from DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, Issue 8]	**DSA02 - #301**
Safety and/or Environmental Management Plan (SEMP)	A document that defines the strategy for addressing safety and environmental documents the Safety and environmental Management System for a specific project. [Adapted from DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, Issue 8]	**DSA02 - #301**
Shall	The term **shall** indicates a Defence Regulation where compliance is mandatory and the source of the regulation will be referenced in the provenance section. [DMR]	**DSA02-DMR**
Should	The term ***should*** indicates one or more Risk Control Option (RCO) considered to be good practice and sufficient to demonstrate acceptable means of compliance with the regulation it is beneath. Other alternative approaches may be suitable where they produce an outcome to the mutual satisfaction of Duty Holder and Regulator that is at least as good as the means proposed. [DMR]	**DSA02-DMR**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Ship	A manned or unmanned maritime platform used in navigation, for example: a warship, submarine, submersible, MOD Ship, boat, novel craft, reserve or cadet vessel (unless permanently moored alongside), navigable barges operated on open water (whether powered or not), amphibious landing or riverine craft. This does include Floating Docks for other MOD vessels. However, this does not include floating jetties, cranes, and pontoons and other items used as part of permanent dockyard infrastructure. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #101**
Standard	A set of technical definitions, rules, codes or practice and guidelines that function as instructions to designers, manufacturers, operators of users of equipment. It provides a solution or generic risk control selected as being to the nature of the system and its intended use or to an activity, which will eliminate or reduce risk from one or more hazards. [Adapted from ASME and HSE R2P2]	**DSA02 - #201**
System	A combination, with defined boundaries, of elements that are used together in a defined operating environment to perform a given task or achieve a specific purpose. The elements may include personnel, procedures, materials, tools, products, facilities, services and/or data as appropriate. [DEF STAN 00-056 Part 1, Issue 8]	**DSA02 - #203**
Tolerable	A level of risk that we are willing to accept in order to perform an activity or achieve an outcome. A tolerable risk is one that is considered to be worth taking, if it has been evaluated and is being managed [JSP 375]	**DSA02 - #703**
Defence Shipping Register (DSR)	International law requires that every merchant ship be registered in a country, called its flag state. A ship is subject to the law of its flag state. It is usual to say that the ship sails under the flag of the country of registration. Ship registration is the process by which a ship is documented and given the nationality of the country to which the ship has been documented. The nationality allows a ship to travel internationally as it is proof of ownership of the vessel. [DMR]	**DSA02 - #601**

Term	Definition [source]	First Used
Warship	A ship belonging to the armed forces of a State bearing the external marks distinguishing such ships of its nationality, under the command of an officer duly commissioned by the government of the State and whose name appears in the appropriate service list, or its equivalent, and manned by a crew which is under regular armed forces discipline. [United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)]	**DSA02 - #211**
Waiver	Temporary, written authorisation for all or a part of specific Defence regulation to not apply to meet or sustain operational capability. Waivers are issued for a specific period and/or activity. (DSA 01.1).	

Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
AFS	Anti-Fouling Systems
ALARP	As Low as Reasonably Practicable
AMC	Acceptable Means of Compliance
AoR	Area of Responsibility
AP	Accountable Person
ASEMS	Acquisition Safety Environmental Management System
AT	Adventurous Training
AtAMS	Approval to Authorise MOD Shipping
BWM	Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments
CO	Commanding Officer
CRO	Client Responsible Organisation
CSEC	Command Safety and Environmental Summary
DAIB	Defence Accident Investigation Branch
DAO	Duly Authorised Organisation
DAP	Duly Authorised Person
DCCE	Directorate of Climate Change and Environment
DCOP	Defence Diving Code of Practice
DDH	Delivery Duty Holder
DDS	Directorate of Defence Safety
DDSC	Defence Diving Safety Certificate
DDST	Defence Diving Standards Team
DE&S	Defence Equipment and Support
DEDs	Disapplications, Exemptions and Derogations
DA	Design Authority
DG	Director General
DH	Duty Holder/Duty Holding
DLOD	Defence Lines of Development
DLST	Defence Legislation Support Tool
DMR	Defence Maritime Regulator
DNSR	Defence Nuclear Safety Regulator
DOC	Document of Compliance
DPA	Designated Person Ashore
DRWC	DMR Regulation Waiver Committee
DSA	Defence Safety Authority
DSEC	Defence Safety and Environmental Committee
DSMS	Diving Safety Management System
DWR	Diving at Work Regulations
EA	Equipment Authority
ECA	Emission Control Area

Acronym	Definition
ECS	Exemption Case Submission
EISS	Environmental Impact Screening and Scoping
EU	European Union
FOST	Fleet Operational Standards and Training
HPMA	Highly Protected Marine Area
HS&EP	Health, Safety and Environmental Protection
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management Assessment
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
ISEA	Independent Safety and Environmental Auditor
ISM	International Safety Management
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
JSAT	Joint Service Adventurous Training
JSP	Joint Service Publication
LOA	Letter of Authority
LoD	Lines of Defence
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MBSC	MOD Boat Safety Certificate
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
METR	Maximum Estimated Time to Rescue
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSA	Merchant Shipping Act
MSMSC	MOD Submarine Safety Certificate
MSSC	MOD Ship Safety Certificate
NA	Naval Authority
NATG	Naval Authority and Technology Group
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NSRA	National Security Risk Assessment
ODH	Operating Duty Holder
OME	Ordnance, Munitions and Explosives
OPRC	Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation Convention
PA	Platform Authority
PMSC	Port Marine Safety Code
PO(CA)	Port Operations (Compliance and Assurance)
POEMS	Project Oriented Environmental Management System
PUWER	Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations
PWOM	Polar Waters Operating Manual
QSEP	Quality, Safety & Environmental Protection
RCS	Risk Control Systems
REACH	Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
RIDDOR	Report of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations

Acronym	Definition
SALMO	Salvage and Marine Operations
SAP	Senior Accountable Person
SDH	Senior Duty Holder
SEC	Safety and/or Environmental Case
SECR	Safety and/or Environmental Case Report
SEEMP	Ships Energy Efficiency Management Plan
SEMP	Safety and Environmental Management Plan
SEMS	Safety and Environmental Management System
SoDD	Superintendent of Defence Diving
SofS	Secretary of State
SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea
SQEP	Suitably Qualified and Experienced Personnel
STCW	Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping
TLB	Top Level Budget
UKDSR	UK Defence Shipping Register
UKSR	UK Shipping Register
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization