



Marine notice 05/2020

Focused inspection campaign—Proper stowage and securing of cargo containers

Purpose

This marine notice provides information to ship owners, operators and masters about the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) focused inspection campaign on cargo securing arrangements that will run from 1 August to 31 October 2020.

Background

This focused inspection campaign has been initiated by AMSA in response to several incidents where containers have been lost into the sea and the subsequent identification of inadequate cargo stowage and securing arrangements.

This is an Australian initiative focusing on cargo stowage and securing arrangements on board vessels arriving at Australian ports. The focused inspection campaign will target vessels that have, or are required to have, cargo stowage and securing arrangements approved under regulation 5 of Chapter VI of the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention¹.

AMSA expects all cargo to be carried in full compliance with the vessel's Cargo Securing Manual as approved under Regulation 5.6 of Chapter VI of SOLAS.

Inspections

Where possible, inspections will take place concurrent with routine port State control inspections.

Standalone inspections may also take place where the vessel is not eligible for port State control inspection. These standalone inspections are not port State control inspections, and the data will not be transmitted to regional port State control databases. However, where a

vessel is deemed non-compliant, and clear grounds exist, the AMSA inspector may proceed to a full port State control inspection.

Where non-compliances are found, AMSA will take the necessary steps to bring the ship into compliance.

AMSA encourages ship owners and masters to familiarise themselves with the approved cargo securing manual for their vessel and [Marine order 42](#) which gives effect to Chapter VI of SOLAS in Australia.

Inspectors will follow a checklist when conducting the focused inspections. This checklist, and more information about the campaign, is available on AMSA's website at amsa.gov.au

Further information

[AMSA marine notice 03/2018](#) reminds vessel owners, operators and masters of the need to stow and secure cargo containers in accordance with approved arrangements.

AMSA's website provides [information on the focused inspection campaign](#) and a [checklist of requirements](#) for proper stowage and securing of cargo containers.

¹ A copy of the SOLAS can be obtained from various websites or specialist marine bookshops.

Cancellation

This notice will be cancelled on 31 October 2020.

Sachi Wimmer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
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