

SAFETY INDUCTION

8.1 General

8.1.1 All new personnel joining a vessel (other than passengers) must undergo a safety induction by a responsible officer which must, as a minimum, cover the requirements of the relevant parts of the STCW Code attached to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping 1978 as amended in 1995 (STCW 95). This training should cover:

- personal survival techniques;
- fire prevention and fire fighting;
- elementary first aid; and
- personal safety and social responsibilities.

The statutory content of such training is set out in section A-VI/I Tables 1-4 of the STCW Code.

8.1.2 It is recommended that each Company should design and implement a standard induction programme for each vessel, covering the STCW requirements, and incorporating any expanded detail specific to that vessel's particular needs. This Chapter gives guidance on the subjects to be covered.

8.1.3 On completion of the standard safety induction, it is also recommended that new personnel receive departmental induction covering safe working practices, areas of responsibility, departmental Standing Orders, and training/certification requirements to operate specific machinery or undertake specific tasks.

8.2.1 All new personnel should be given a clear explanation of the vessel's alarm signals, and be given instruction on the emergency assembly stations, lifeboat stations and fire drill/team requirements.

8.2.2 Smoking regulations on the vessel should be strictly observed. Safe and correct disposal of cigarette ends is essential, and "No Smoking" notices should be strictly obeyed.

8.2.3 Fire aboard a vessel can be disastrous. Common causes are:

- faulty electrical appliances/circuitry
- overloading of electrical circuitry
- careless disposal of cigarette ends
- spontaneous combustion of dirty waste/ rags especially if contaminated with oil
- damp storage of linen/materials
- oil spillage/leakage in machinery spaces
- galley fires due to overheating of cooking oils
- carelessness with hand pressing irons
- incorrect methods of drying laundry

8.2.4 Personnel should be made aware of these risks and ensure at all times through good housekeeping, regular inspection and maintenance of electrical circuitry and appliances etc, that fire risks are removed where possible or kept to a minimum.

8.3 Accidents and Medical Emergencies

8.3.1 All personnel should know the action to be taken in cases of accident or medical casualty on board ship. For example, at least they will need to know how to raise the alarm and seek assistance.

8.4.1 It is the responsibility of individuals to ensure high standards of personal hygiene and to look after their own health. Attention should be paid to :

- personal cleanliness
- sensible diet
- adequate sleep during rest periods
- regular exercise
- avoidance of excess alcohol/tobacco
- prompt attention to cuts/abrasions
- maintenance of working clothes and protective equipment in a clean condition
- appropriate dress for the work and climate
- avoidance of recreational drugs.

8.4.2 On international voyages, any vaccinations/innoculations required should be fully updated. Medications for prevention of illness (eg anti-malarial tablets etc.) should be taken as and when required.

8.4.3 In hot climates, it is important to protect skin from strong sunlight and drink plenty of salt-containing liquids to replace the body fluids lost through perspiration.

8.5 Good Housekeeping

8.5.1 All ships move in a seaway and as space is very limited aboard any vessel, good housekeeping is essential for safe working/access and hygiene control. Attention should be paid in particular to the following areas:

- safe and secure stowage of loose items
- proper securing of doors etc.
- good maintenance of fittings and fixtures
- adequate illumination of all work/transit areas
- avoidance of overloading of electrical circuits especially in cabins

- proper clearance and disposal of garbage/ waste materials

8.6 Environmental Responsibilities

8.6.1 The maintenance of good standards to protect the environment, whether local (i.e. accommodation/work areas) or the wider environment is important and is the responsibility of all personnel. Many aspects are covered by international legislation and it is the duty of all personnel to ensure strict compliance with such legislation.

8.6.2 Handling and storage of garbage can present health and safety hazards to crews and ships. Requirements of the garbage management plan should be observed.

8.6.3 Particular attention should be paid to the correct methods of disposal of waste oils (bilge or other), chemicals, galley waste, garbage (especially plastics, glass, drums and other non-biodegradable items), redundant items (moorings, dunnage, cargo cleanings etc.) See Annex 8.1.

8.6.4 Incinerators and compactors should always be operated by competent personnel, and operating instructions should be strictly followed.

8.7 Occupational health and safety

8.7.1 All new personnel should be made aware of the regulations governing occupational health and safety on board, including activity specific regulations, such as those governing the use of lifting plant or means of access. Section 3 of this Code gives advice on complying with the regulations.

8.7.2 Where there are no specific regulations, the general duties contained in the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997 apply. The main principle contained in these

the risks involved in a particular task, and the identification of the most effective measures to limit that risk. Guidance on risk assessment is in Chapter 1.

8.8 Employer and worker responsibilities

8.8.1 All new personnel should be informed of their employer's duties in respect of health and safety. The details are in the regulatory framework at the start of this Code.

8.8.2 It is particularly important that they are reminded to follow any training, oral or written instructions they have been given, and know to whom they should report any deficiencies in equipment or unsafe practices they may notice.

8.8.3 Personnel who find any defects in any equipment, or a condition they believe to be hazardous or unsafe, should immediately report it to a responsible person, who should take appropriate action.

8.9 Consultation procedures

8.9.1 New personnel must be told about the procedures for consultation on health and safety matters, who their safety representatives are (where applicable) and should be encouraged to contribute ideas to improve safety.

SUMMARY OF AT SEA GARBAGE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS

GARBAGE TYPE	ALL SHIPS EXCEPT PLATFORMS— Note 3		OFFSHORE PLATFORMS Note 3
	OUTSIDE SPECIAL AREAS	IN SPECIAL AREAS Note 1	
Plastics-include synthetic ropes and fishing nets and plastic garbage bags	Disposal prohibited	Disposal prohibited	Disposal prohibited
Floating dunnage, lining and packing materials	> 25 miles offshore	Disposal prohibited	Disposal prohibited
Paper, rags, glass, metal, bottles, crockery and similar refuse	> 12 miles	Disposal prohibited	Disposal prohibited
All other garbage including paper, rags, glass, etc comminuted or ground - Note 2	> 3 miles	Disposal prohibited	Disposal prohibited
Food waste not comminuted or ground	>12 miles	>12 miles -Note 6	Disposal prohibited
Food waste comminuted or ground	>3 miles	> 12 miles -Notes 5, 6	> 12 miles
Mixed refuse types	Note 4	Note 4	Note 4

Notes

- 1 "Special areas" are as defined in the Regulations.
- 2 Comminuted or ground garbage must be able to pass through a screen with mesh size no larger than 25mm.
- 3 Offshore platforms and associated ships include all fixed or floating platforms engaged in exploration or exploitation of seabed mineral resources, and all ships alongside or within 500 m of such platforms.
- 4 When garbage is mixed with other harmful substances having different disposal or discharge requirements, the more stringent requirements shall apply.
- 5 >3 miles for Wider Caribbean.
- 6 A UK ship shall not enter the Antarctic unless:
 - (a) it has sufficient capacity for the retention on board for all garbage while operating in the area.
 - (b) it has concluded arrangements for the retention of retained garbage at a reception facility after it has left the area.