

# Maritime Security

## INTERNATIONAL SHIP & PORT SECURITY CODE

### 1.0 Introduction

The Code takes the approach that ensuring the security of ships and port facilities is basically a risk management activity. An assessment of the risks must be made in each particular case to determine what security measures are appropriate.

### 2.0 Objectives

The objectives of the code are:

- to establish an international framework involving co-operation between Contracting Governments, Government agencies, local administrations and the shipping and port industries to detect security threats and take preventive measures against security incidents affecting ships or port facilities used in the international trade;
- to establish the respective roles and responsibilities of the Contracting Governments, Government agencies, local administrations and the shipping and port industries, at the national and international level, for ensuring maritime security;
- to ensure the early and efficient collection and exchange of security-related information;
- to provide a methodology for security assessments so as to have in place plans and procedures to react to changing security levels; and
- to ensure confidence that adequate and proportionate maritime security measures are in place.

### 3.0 Functional Requirements

In order to achieve its objectives, this Code embodies a number of functional requirements. These include, but are not limited to:

- gathering and assessing information with respect to security threats and exchanging such information with appropriate Contracting Governments;
- requiring the maintenance of communication protocols for ships and port facilities;
- preventing unauthorised access to ships, port facilities and their restricted areas;
- preventing the introduction of unauthorized weapons, incendiary devices or explosives to ships and port facilities;
- providing means for raising the alarm in reaction to security threats or security incidents;
- requiring ship and port facility security plans based upon security assessments; and
- requiring training, drills and exercises to ensure familiarity with security plans and procedures.

## 4.0 Ship Security

Improved ship security will be required in order to identify and take preventive measures against security incidents. A ship security assessment will be carried out by the company security officer (or by persons with appropriate skills) as it is an essential and integral part of the process of developing and updating the ship security plan. The ship security assessment shall be documented, reviewed, accepted and retained by the Company. From this assessment the ship security plan will be developed.

Each ship shall carry onboard a ship security plan approved by the Administration.

The Administration may entrust the review and approval of the ship security plans, or of amendments to a previously approved plan, to recognized security organisations.

Maritime NZ is responsible for the approval of the plans and for the verification and certification for New Zealand flagged ships.

Each ship will be required to have a ship security officer onboard.

## 5.0 Port Facility Security

Port facilities which serve ships engaged on international voyages will be required to act upon the security levels set by Maritime NZ. A port facility security assessment will be carried out by Maritime NZ who may authorise a recognized security organisation to undertake this assessment on their behalf.

The security assessment is an essential and integral part of the process of developing and updating the port facility security plan.

The assessment will be reviewed and approved by Maritime NZ. The Port Company will then be responsible for preparing the Port Facility Security Plan. Maritime NZ will be responsible for approving the plan for implementation.

## 6.0 More Information

More information about the ISPS Code can be found on the [Lloyds Register website](#). You may [purchase a hard copy](#) of the code from the [IMO website](#).