

Maritime Operator Safety System (MOSS) Audit – what maritime operators need to know

The MOSS audit looks at how your operation is performing against your operator plan under your Maritime Transport Operator Certificate (MTOC)

When will you be audited?

Audit date

When you were first issued an MTOC a risk profile was completed for your operation. The timing of the first audit is set by the risk profile score. It can be from 6 to 24 months from the date of issue of your MTOC.

Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) will get in touch with you up to two months before your audit is due to set up a time to meet with you.

Time involved

The amount of time involved will depend on the complexity of your operation, the number of vessels involved and how well you have implemented your safety system.

MNZ's time includes preparation, a visit to the operation and writing up the report following the visit.

Risk profile update

Part of the audit will involve a review of your risk profile. This looks at the safety system across the whole of your operation. It includes:

- safety culture
- compliance history
- operating practice
- experience and capability
- organisational factors.

The risk profile score will help decide when your next audit will be. This will be 24 to 48 months after the audit.

What does the audit involve?

Overview

The MOSS audit looks at your whole operation. It checks that you are operating safely and following your operator plan.

Key items covered

The following items are checked as part of the audit:

- vessel details and requirements including maintenance of the vessel, survey requirements and compliance with relevant maritime rules
- people who have control and responsibility over the operation
- crew training and manning levels
- changes to the operator plan including activities, ports or harbours and vessels
- the operator plan is kept up to date and changes recorded
- management of safety risks and hazards
- harm prevention
- protection of the environment

MOSS audit visit

A Maritime Officer (MO) will visit your operation. The MO will look at your operator plan, records and relevant vessel documentation. They will also observe an emergency procedure.

The MO will talk to the people named in the operator plan to make sure they know and understand their responsibilities.

What do you need to do?

You will need to be available to show your operation to the MO.

People named in the operator plan as having responsibilities will need to be available to talk to the MO.

If you have added a vessel into your operation that wasn't there when you were assessed for your MTOC, you will need to make sure the vessel manual and its operating procedures are available for the MO.

Tips for your audit

- Make sure you have the latest version of your operator plan available.
- Be prepared to answer questions about your operator plan and your operation in general.
- Make sure your records are up to date and can be accessed easily.
- Be prepared to demonstrate an emergency procedure.
- Make sure your crew understand what the audit is about and that they may also be asked questions.

How much will it cost?

There are no fees for routine audits and inspections of domestic operators that pay the Maritime Levy. However, there may be charges for follow-up visits.

Refer to the MNZ website for information about fees.

www.maritimenz.govt.nz/fees

Refer to the MNZ website for further information: www.maritimenz.govt.nz/moss.

The MOSS audit section sits under MOSS for operators.