

Fact sheet 6

International voyages for pleasure

This is one of a number of fact sheets for ships operating under Maritime Rules Part 19 – Maritime Transport Operator – Certification and Responsibilities. This fact sheet is for the owner or operator planning an international voyage for pleasure – that is, a journey from a port in New Zealand to a port in another country or vice versa, or between two ports outside New Zealand.

If you...

- own or operate a ship operating in a maritime transport operation
- the ship is less than 500 tons gross tonnage and less than 45 metres in length
- plan to take the ship on an international voyage for your pleasure and the ship:
 - is **not** on the New Zealand Register of Ships
 - is assigned **less than** unlimited operating limits
 - if any passengers are carried, their number is 12 or less



- register the ship on the New Zealand Register of Ships
- apply for exemptions from the unlimited survey requirements if the ship cannot meet the unlimited survey rule requirements
- get an MNZ recognised surveyor to undertake a survey of the ship for the purposes of the voyage
- upgrade safety, communications and emergency equipment as required by the surveyor to mitigate the foreseeable risks of the voyage
- obtain from the surveyor a Certificate of Survey for the voyage
- ensure that the crew has the competencies for the trip and the number of seafarers is sufficient to keep watches on the voyage
- modify your operator plan and procedures as appropriate for the voyage
- complete an application form for a Certificate for International Voyage and attach all relevant documents for the voyage
- pay to MNZ the applicable fees for the Certificate for International Voyage, the exemption, and registration on the New Zealand Register of Ships.¹

As owner or operator you should bear in mind that while an international voyage for pleasure involves non-commercial use, your vessel does not change its status as a commercial ship. The ship is still part of the maritime transport operation, and obligations continue to apply to the maritime transport operator. Importantly, a commercial ship does not become a 'pleasure craft' when used on an international voyage for pleasure.

¹ Fees for registration vary depending on whether the ship is a new build or an existing ship, and whether it's going on Part A or Part B of the Register. Further information is available through the links in this sheet.

What your surveyor must do

- survey the ship
- provide advice to you on appropriate upgrades of safety, communications and emergency equipment for the voyage
- provide advice to you on appropriate crew competencies
- issue a Certificate of Survey for the voyage.

A single certificate may be issued for the duration of all legs of the international pleasure voyage.

What MNZ will do

- register the ship on the New Zealand Register of Ships
- assess and where appropriate grant exemptions from the unlimited survey requirements if the ship cannot meet the unlimited survey rule requirements
- assess and where appropriate grant a Certificate for International Voyage where complete information is provided on the form and all required documents are attached.

A single certificate may cover all legs of the international pleasure voyage.

Ballast water management

If your ship carries non-permanent ballast water, you must undergo a certification process for international voyages.

To avoid any delay in receiving your Certificate for International Voyage and your related ballast water documentation, Maritime NZ recommends you begin the process of applying for ballast water certification as soon as possible.

More information about Ballast Water Management can be found at www.maritimenz.govt.nz/ballast

Maritime Labour Convention

Ships, other than fishing ships, on international voyages may be inspected by port state control officers in overseas ports for compliance with the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. Ships less than 500 gross tonnage must comply with the convention, but they are not required to hold a Maritime Labour Certificate. You may, however, wish to voluntarily obtain certification as evidence of compliance, otherwise your vessel may be subject to more detailed inspection against the convention standards.

More information about applying for a Maritime Labour Certificate can be found at www.maritimenz.govt.nz/commercial/ships/

Resources and further information on www.maritimenz.govt.nz

The application form for a Certificate for International Voyage contains headings and fields that will help you to prepare for the voyage.

The form (which you can complete on line and email to MNZ) is available at MOSS.

MNZ fees

Information on current fees is available at <https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/fees/>.

Exemptions

An exemption can only be granted on the grounds provided for in section 47 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994. Guidance on applying for an exemption and exemption request forms are available at [Applying for an exemption - Maritime NZ](#).

For further information contact the exemptions officer at exemptions.officer@maritimenz.govt.nz.

Survey requirements

Contact details for MNZ recognised surveyors are available at [MOSS](#)

Registration

A commercial ship of 24 metres register length or less can be registered on Part A or Part B of the New Zealand Register. Part B registration is more straightforward and costs less. Over this length, there's no choice – it must be Part A.

MNZ usual processing time for a Part B registration is 10 working days. The Part A registration process takes approximately 25 working days to complete.

More information on ship registration, including guidance and application forms are available at:

<https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/commercial/ships/registration/>

Maritime New Zealand offices

Contacts for your nearest Maritime NZ office are at [maritimenz.govt.nz/offices](https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/offices)

For further information contact operators@maritimenz.govt.nz