

## Fact sheet 5

# International relocation voyages to New Zealand

## Q & A

This is one of six fact sheets for operators of ships less than 500 gross tonnage and less than 45 metres in length that propose to undertake an international, non-commercial relocation voyage. This sheet asks and answers some common questions about newly purchased ships coming to New Zealand.

**Q:** *Can the ship sail under the New Zealand flag with an overseas crew – say, Australian certificate holders?*

**A:** Yes – provided the Director is satisfied that the competencies are appropriate for the voyage and the number of seafarers is adequate.

**Q:** *Can I delay settlement of the purchase of the ship until it arrives in New Zealand and have it delivered here under the overseas flag with an overseas crew?*

**A:** Yes – registration under the New Zealand flag is only required once the sale is finalised. Note too that once in New Zealand, a commercial ship of 24 metres register length and less is not required to be registered unless it proceeds on an international voyage. This option may make sense if you don't envisage any subsequent overseas excursions.

**Q:** *Can I bring the ship to New Zealand as a pleasure craft (and therefore not have to have a Certificate for International Voyage), and then enter it as a commercial ship in my operation under MOSS.*

**A:** No. A ship intended for commercial service in New Zealand cannot be classed as a pleasure craft at the owner's convenience. The law recognizes non-commercial use of a commercial ship, but the ship remains at all times a commercial ship

## **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](http://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/](http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/commercial/ships/)