

MARINE SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

TIER I – POLICY

OVERSIGHT OF SMALL NON-PLEASURE VESSELS

1 Policy Objective

- 1.1 This policy establishes the risk-based oversight approach that is to be applied to small non-pleasure vessels.

2 Policy Statement

- 2.1 In accordance with the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*, section 106, vessel safety is the responsibility of the owner/operator: *“(1) The authorized representative of a Canadian vessel shall (a) ensure that the vessel and its machinery and equipment meet the requirements of the regulations made under this Part; (b) develop procedures for the safe operation of the vessel and for dealing with emergencies; and (c) ensure that the crew and passengers receive safety training.”*
- 2.2 Transport Canada Marine Safety has regulatory oversight responsibility for all small vessels.
- 2.3 All vessels are subject to inspection at any time by a Marine Safety Inspector.
- 2.4 Small non-pleasure vessels will be prioritized for inspections by Transport Canada Marine Safety based on risk factors. Higher risk vessels will receive a higher prioritization for inspection than lower risk vessels. The majority of the small non-pleasure vessel inspections scheduled will be on higher risk vessels, but inspections on a sampling of lower risk vessels will be scheduled as well.
 - 2.4.1 For vessels enrolled in the Small Vessel Compliance Program (SVCP), the vessel’s risk profile is derived as part of the SVCP enrolment process.
 - 2.4.2 For vessels not enrolled in the SVCP, the vessel will be considered high risk if Marine Safety obtains evidence that a vessel is non-compliant, for example, a complaint is received that the vessel is deficient or defective.

Note: Marine Safety Inspectors are to inform the Authorized Representatives (ARs) of these vessels about the SVCP and its benefits in helping ARs bring their vessel(s) into compliance.

3 Scope

3.1 This policy applies to small non-pleasure vessels that are:

- Not more than 15 gross tons (GT); and,
- Carrying no more than 12 passengers.

4 Authority

4.1 This policy falls under the overall administrative authority of the Director General, Marine Safety and Security and the Marine Safety and Security Executive Committee (MSSE) has approved this policy for general application.

4.2 It is made pursuant to the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001* in support of the stated objectives of Section 6, in particular, sub-sections (a) through (e), and (h) and (i).

5 Responsibility

5.1 The Director, Domestic Vessel Regulatory Oversight is responsible for the development, approval, maintenance and functional oversight of this policy.

5.2 The Manager, Flag State Inspection Standards (AMSAD) is the OPI for this policy.

5.3 Regional Directors, Marine Safety are responsible for implementing this policy and quality control.

5.4 Comments or queries related to this policy and its application should be addressed to:

Director, Domestic Vessel Regulatory Oversight (AMSA)
Transport Canada, Marine Safety
330 Sparks Street
Ottawa, Ontario (Canada) K1A 0N8

6 Related Documents

6.1 [*Canada Shipping Act, 2001*](#)

6.2 [*Small Vessel Regulations*](#)

6.3 TP 13585 - Policy - Small Vessel Compliance Program (SVCP),
[RDIMS # 7595495](#)

6.4 TP 13585 - Procedure - Inspection of Small Non-Pleasure Vessels,
[RDIMS # 6926761](#)

- 6.5 TP 13585 – Work Instruction – Recording Inspections of Vessels Enrolled in the Small Vessel Compliance Program (SVCP), [RDIMS #7431624](#)
- 6.6 TP 13585 – Work Instruction – Recording Inspections of Vessels Not Enrolled in the Small Vessel Compliance Program, [RDIMS # 7554962](#)

7 Definitions

- 7.1 A “non-pleasure” vessel refers to any vessel that is not a pleasure craft.
- 7.2 The term “pleasure craft” is defined in section 2 of the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*.
- 7.3 The term “Authorized Representative” is defined in Sub-section 14(1) of the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*.

8 Date of Application

- 8.1 This policy comes into effect on June 30, 2012.

9 Date for Review or Expiry

- 9.1 This policy will be reviewed two (2) years following its date of approval and at a frequency of not less than every five (5) years thereafter.

10 RDIMS Reference

- 10.1 This document is saved in RDIMS under reference number 7550469. The applied naming convention is PUBLICATION – TP 13585 – POLICY – OVERSIGHT OF SMALL NON-PLEASURE VESSELS.
- 10.2 La version française du présent document est dans le SGDDI et porte le numéro de référence 7675750. La règle d'affectation des noms est PUBLICATION – TP 13585 – POLITIQUE - SURVEILLANCE DES PETITS BÂTIMENTS AUTRES QUE LES EMBARCATIONS DE PLAISANCE.
- 10.3 This is the first approved and finalized English version of this document.

11 Keywords

- Small Vessel Compliance Program
- SVCP
- Non-SVCP vessels
- Vessels not enrolled in the SVCP
- Oversight
- Inspections