

M-Notices August 2011

MGN 433 (M) - Helicopter Aviation Inspection Bodies

Vessels seeking compliance with section 24.2.2 of the Large Commercial Yacht Code and chapter 11.2 of the Passenger Yacht Code require a Helicopter Landing Area Certificate to be issued by one of the aviation inspection bodies (AIBs) recognised by the flag administration.

MGN 433 sets out the criteria a body must meet in order to become an AIB and explains the application process. The latest list of AIBs and their contact details is available on the MCA Website by selecting 'Helicopter Aviation Inspection Bodies' at the following address: www.dft.gov.uk/mca/mcga07-home/shipsandcargoes/mcga-mcga-ensign.htm.

Revision 3 of the Large Commercial Yacht Code (to be published as Revision 3 to MSN 1792 for UK vessels) will be amended to account for the change in process for accepting AIBs.

MIN 412 (M) - Navigation: Vessel Traffic Services V103 and Local Port Services Course Dates 2011-2012

This notice sets out dates for the IALA V103 courses and Local Port Services (LPS) courses programmed for UK port and harbour authorities at MCA accredited training organisations between June 2011 and July 2012.

The dates have been agreed and arranged following consultation with South Tyneside College, Fleetwood Nautical Campus (Blackpool and The Fylde College) and the Port of London Authority.

Candidates should contact the training organisations of their choice for further course information and to determine any accredited prior learning - this is especially important for non-marine applicants.

Further guidance can be obtained from MGN 318 - Vessel Traffic Services (VTS): Training and Certification of VTS Personnel.

MIN 412 also provides a list of national and international guidelines and legislation for VTS operations. The publications listed are the latest editions at the time of issue of this note.

MIN 413 (M+F) - MARPOL: Amendments to MARPOL Annex I to add Chapter 9 - Special Requirements for the Use or Carriage of Oils in the Antarctic Area

The purpose of this note is to advise that a new Chapter 9 to MARPOL Annex I - Special requirements for the use of oils in the Antarctic area - will enter into force internationally on 1 August 2011. The Antarctic area is defined in regulation 1.11.7 of Annex I of MARPOL.

On or after that date, the carriage in bulk as cargo or carriage and use as fuel of the following oils will be prohibited in the Antarctic area, as defined in Annex I, regulation 1.11.7:

- crude oils with a density at 15 °C higher than 900 kg/m³
- oils, other than crude oils, with a density at 15 °C higher than 900 kg/m³ or a kinematic viscosity at 50 °C higher than 180 mm²/s; or
- bitumen, tar and their emulsions

When prior operations have included the carriage or use of oils listed above, the cleaning or flushing of tanks or pipelines is not required.