



Merchant Shipping Directorate



NON-CONVENTION VESSEL (NCV) CODE

Merchant Shipping Notice 149

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,
Designers, Builders, Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations*

The Directorate would like to remind all those concerned that following consultation with all stakeholders and interested parties involved, it has issued the Non-Convention Vessel (NCV) Code.

The NCV Code creates synergy and incorporates the requirements that were previously set by the CVC Code (Code of Practice for the Safety of Commercial Vessels) together with the requirements for Non-Convention Vessels, namely the IACS Recommendation No.99.

The NCV Code is intended to serve the needs of the non-convention vessels better by optimising the regulatory regime to the particular needs, demands and technologies of this market, in conformity with recent safety and international regulations and standards.

The NCV Code has been developed and is applicable to all Non-Convention Vessels \geq 15m LoA, including commercial vessels \geq 15m LoA which are certified and operating on domestic navigation including those vessels operating exclusively within Maltese waters and which are engaged in or intended for use in any trade, business or calling or operating for hire or reward, in the carriage of cargo/supplies/passengers or providing port services or services to other vessels.

The NCV Code does not apply to:

- a) Non-Convention Vessels $<$ 15m LoA, for which the Non-Convention Vessel Survey Guidelines (IACS 99) will remain applicable,
- b) Commercial vessels $<$ 15m LoA which are certified and operating exclusively within Maltese waters for which the CVC Code will remain applicable.
- c) All water sports vessels which are certified and operating exclusively within Maltese waters for which the CVC Code will remain applicable.
- d) military vessels,
- e) vessels belonging to the State and used for non-commercial purposes,
- f) pleasure craft and yachts not employed in commercial use,
- g) commercial yachts engaged in trade. The Malta Commercial Yacht Code applies in this case,
- h) fishing vessels,
- i) vessels owned or operated on non-commercial services.

The NCV Code will come into force as from the **1st January 2019**.

Existing vessels, already certified under the CVC and/or IACS99 Certification Schemes, shall comply with the Code by not later than the first periodical survey that is carried out on or after the **1st June 2019**.

Government Appointed Surveyors and Recognised Organisations are authorised by this Administration to perform the required surveys leading to the issuance of the NCV Certificate, following the approval of requests made therein.

The NCV Code may be downloaded from the following link: <https://news.transport.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/NCV-Code-Rev-1.pdf>

Further information is available on our website <http://www.transport.gov.mt>

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Merchant Shipping Directorate
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