



CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

for

**New fishing vessels
less than 15 metres length overall**

SEA FISH INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

www.seafish.org/boatbuilders

Produced and published by the

SEA FISH INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

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IMPORTANT NOTE

These Construction Standards define minimum Seafish standards for the design, construction, inspection and certification of the hull, and outfit of small commercial fishing vessels. Particular attention is drawn to Part 1 of these Standards with regard to the definition and scope of Seafish certification of any new vessel.

In addition, Designers, Builders, Operators and Owners should ensure that they comply with the relevant Code of Practice for the Safety of Small Fishing Vessels under 15 Metres in Length and also such International Convention requirements as may be applicable.

Introduction

These Construction Standards can be used as guidance to anyone wishing to build a new vessel, but only a Seafish Marine Surveyor can certify a new vessel to these Standards.

The Sea Fish Industry Authority (Seafish), established under the Fisheries Act 1981, has statutory duties defined by that Act as among other things: *“promoting the efficiency of the seafood industry so as to serve the interests of that industry as a whole”*, giving effect to directions from Ministers, or acting as their agents if so required.

Seafish is directed in its activities by a Board, appointed by Ministers under the provisions of that Act, with five of its nine members drawn from various industry sectors, and the remaining four, including the chair, independent of any financial or commercial interest in the industry. In developing the programme of Seafish activities, they are assisted by three industry panels, chaired by an Industry Representative who attends board meetings and advises the board on industry requirements in the Domestic and Export, Import and Processing and Supply Chain Sectors,

Seafish Standards have been developed by the Marine Survey Department of the Sea Fish Industry Authority (Seafish) through close consultation between the MCA, (Maritime and Coastguard Agency, an Executive Agency of the Department of Transport) Specialist Marine Equipment Manufacturers, Fishing Vessel Builders, and Fishing Industry Representatives, under the direction of a Standards Review Committee on which the following organisations were represented:-

Shipbuilders and Shiprepairers Association
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
National Federation of Fishermen’s Organisations
Northern Ireland Fishermen’s Federation
Scottish Fishermen’s Federation

These Standards will be reviewed at intervals not exceeding five years to take into account experience gained in their application and any new statutory requirements will be applied to new vessels as applicable to these Standards.

Where new standards are developed and finalised by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), European Union (EU), the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) or International Standards Organisation (ISO) or SeaFish Industry Authority which impact upon the requirements of these Standards, amendment may be considered immediately and implemented by means of a SeaFish information note (SFIN).

How you can contact us

Addresses, telephone numbers (including those with twenty-four hour answering machines) and faxes for all our Marine Survey offices are given below.

Edinburgh Administration

Sea Fish Industry Authority

Marine Services

18 Logie Mill

Logie Green Road

Edinburgh

EH7 4HS

Telephone: 0131 524 8678

Fax: 0131 558 1442

Grimsby Main Office

Sea Fish Industry Authority

Marine Services

Origin Way

Europarc

Grimsby

N.E. Lincs

DN37 9TZ

Telephone: 01472 252300

E-mail: marineservices@seafish.co.uk

Our offices are staffed during normal office hours.

Application for Survey

Application forms can be obtained from any of the Marine Survey offices listed. Completed application forms should be returned to the Administrator at the Edinburgh office. All applications outwith the UK contact the Administrator at the Edinburgh office.

Standards of service

We will ensure that:-

- Telephone calls are answered promptly during working hours. If the person you speak to cannot deal with your enquiry in full, you will be referred to someone who can. If necessary we will call you back;
- Correspondence from you is answered within fifteen working days of receipt. If this cannot be done we will acknowledge your letter within the deadline, explain why a detailed response is delayed, and let you know when you may expect one;
- If the matter you raise cannot be dealt with by us, we will explain the position, and if possible, put you in direct contact with whoever is most likely to be able to help you;
- If you make an appointment with us (or we make an arrangement to meet you) we will do all we can to keep it. If, exceptionally, we are forced to cancel, we will arrange a new appointment at a mutually convenient time.

Courtesy and helpfulness

We will always be courteous and try to help you.

We will identify ourselves by name when we meet, talk or write to you. Where appropriate we will also wear name badges or provide nameplates at meetings we organise.

Consultation

We will carry out surveys to find what you think of our service and how we might improve it. If you have any view on the service we provide we would like to hear from you. If you think our service could be better, it is important that you tell us, as information you provide will help us to provide improved service in the future. You can do this either over the telephone, by letter, by e-mail or by facsimile.

Complaints

If you have a complaint about the way we operate or the services that we provide you can tell us by telephone, in writing, by facsimile, or in person.

All complaints should be addressed to:-

Head of Marine Surveyors
Sea Fish Industry Authority
Origin Way
Europarc
Grimsby
N.E Lincs
DN37 9TZ

Telephone: 01472 252300
Fax: 01472 311101

This matter will be investigated and you should expect a written reply within three weeks.

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