



Canada - Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board
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Safety Directive

General Marine Safety Requirements

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Foreign flagged vessels working in Canadian waters under a Coasting Trading License are required to meet minimum safety standards prescribed by their flag state, which in most cases coincide with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) *Safety of Life at Sea* (SOLAS) standards. In some cases Regulations under the Canada Shipping Act also reflect minimum SOLAS standards. Regulations under the Accord Acts often require a higher standard than SOLAS for critical safety equipment. This has resulted in a situation where a different standard of critical safety equipment may be available to personnel on vessels working under a Board authorization than is required on installations in accordance with sections 22 and 30 of the Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Installations Regulations.

Pursuant to Section 142.2 of the Canada Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act, I have advised the Board that, in order to maintain a common standard of safety and care for all workers, the following standards are required on vessels engaged in Board authorized activities;

- Marine Abandonment Suits are expected to conform to the latest version of CGSB-65.16, *Marine Abandonment Immersion Suit Systems*.
- Firefighter's clothing and equipment shall meet the appropriate *National Fire Protection Association* (NFPA) standard for structural firefighting.
- Firefighter's breathing apparatus shall meet NFPA standards for professional firefighting.

Other international standards may be considered if the Operator is able to demonstrate equivalency to the Chief Safety Officer. The Chief Safety Officer expects that all Operators engaged in authorized work activities will ensure that these general marine safety standards are in place for the vessels listed on Appendix "A" of their respective Declaration of Operator.

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact:

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