



Marine Notice 20/2013
Supersedes 17/2011

Under Keel Clearance Management System

Purpose

The purpose of this Marine Notice is to advise that from 1 January 2014 all coastal pilots transiting ships through the Prince of Wales Channel, the Gannet Passage or the Varzin Passage, will use the Under Keel Clearance Management (UKCM) system, implemented by AMSA, when complying with Marine Order 54 (Coastal Pilotage) 2011.

Background

On 16 December 2011 a UKCM system became operational for use in the Prince of Wales Channel, the Gannet Passage and the Varzin Passage. The UKCM system contributes to protecting the marine environment and enhancing the safety and efficiency of transiting vessels.

The purpose of the system is to ensure that the best possible under keel clearance information, updated in real time, is available to assist in the planning and safe conduct of vessel transits.

The UKCM system is a web-based aid to navigation for use by ship masters, pilotage providers and licensed coastal pilots in the region. When a successful transit has been calculated pilots can save and print the plan for use and wider promulgation. This plan will be used in the event of loss of connectivity to the web-based system during a transit.

Further information can be found on the AMSA website at www.amsa.gov.au/navigation/services/ukcm/

Area of Operation

The UKCM system is designed to cover navigable ship routes between the longitudes of 141 degrees and 50 minutes east and 142 degrees and 27 minutes east. These routes are as defined in Marine Order 54, provision 94. Routes are limited to those areas designated by the Australian Hydrographic Service as having a category A Zone of Confidence.

UKCM Training

AMSA has introduced a UKCM system Competency Based Training and assessment process. There are two on-line training programs available – one specifically designed for pilots, pilot providers and REEFVTS Operators; and one designed for use by planners, masters, pilot launch operators and other users. The training for pilots includes a one-on-one competency assessment with an AMSA assessor.

The on-line training programs can be accessed through the AMSA Coastal Pilotage e-learning portal <http://www.learningseat.com/servlet/ShopFrontPage?companyId=amsamsd>

Access to the UKCM system is available for approved users through a vetted registration process. To request registration, please follow the registration application process available at <https://ukcm.amsa.gov.au/Security/LogOn>

Masters are urged to provide accurate stability and draught data to pilots in a timely manner to ensure appropriate route planning.

Summary of Roles

Entity	Role
Shipping Company/agent	Provide the required vessel particulars including hydrostatic details and ETA at the UKCM area to the pilot provider.
Master	Provide the required final stability particulars prior to the pilot boarding/transiting the area.
Coastal Pilots/Pilotage Providers	Use the UKCM system. Manage tidal windows and vessel transit plans.
AMSA	Oversee the use of the UKCM system by pilot providers. Provide training and assess pilots in the use of the UKCM system. Provide validated sensor data for use by the UKCM system. Provide pilotage provider/pilot access to the UKCM system.
REEFVTS	Provide UKCM-related information, as part of the on-going delivery of an Information Service.

Contact us

Further information can be sought from media@amsa.gov.au or for technical information NSIDPILOT@amsa.gov.au

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