



**SHIPPING (MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF SEAFARERS)
AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 1997**

MICHAEL HARDIE BOYS, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At Wellington this 3rd day of March 1997

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to section 204 of the Maritime Transport Act 1994, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, makes the following regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. Title and commencement—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Shipping (Medical Examination of Seafarers) Amendment Regulations 1997, and are part of the Shipping (Medical Examination of Seafarers) Regulations 1986* (“the principal regulations”).

(2) These regulations come into force on the 28th day after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

2. Examination of seafarers for certificate of medical fitness—Regulation 3 of the principal regulations is amended by adding, after subclause (4), the following subclause:

“(5) Where a seafarer has lost the sight in one eye, the seafarer must not seek a medical examination for the issue of a certificate of medical fitness until 6 months have elapsed following that loss of sight.”

3. Vision standards—The Second Schedule of the principal regulations is amended by revoking clause 1, and substituting the following clause:

“1. *Vision*—(1) Monocular vision is not acceptable for seafarers serving in the deck department.

“(2) Subject to subclauses (3) and (4), a seafarer with monocular vision serving in departments other than the deck department will pass the minimum standard in accordance with the Masters and Mates (Foreign-Going and Coastal) Qualification Regulations 1993* if—

“(a) The seafarer has adequately adjusted to monocular vision; and

“(b) The seafarer has corrected or uncorrected vision in that eye enabling him or her to read correctly to line 6 (6/9) in accordance with the standard eyesight test; and

“(c) The seafarer has a horizontal field of view of at least 120 degrees.

“(3) If serving in the engineroom department, the seafarer with monocular vision must have the ability to distinguish basic colours.

“(4) If meeting the standard required under subclause (2) using corrective lenses, the seafarer with monocular vision must be able to read line 1 (6/60) of the standard eyesight test uncorrected.

“(5) Candidates for examination for certificates of competency as masters and mates, and applicants for sea-going licences as masters or deck officers, must be sight-tested in accordance with the Masters and Mates (Foreign-Going and Coastal) Qualification Regulations 1993.”

MARIE SHROFF,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

*S.R. 1993/36

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations, which come into force 28 days after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*, amend the Shipping (Medical Examination of Seafarers) Regulations 1986 to allow seafarers with monocular vision who serve in departments other than the deck department to continue their sea-going employment, subject to certain minimum vision standards.

Regulation 2 amends regulation 3 of the principal regulations to provide that where a seafarer has lost the sight in one eye, a medical examination for the issue of a certificate of medical fitness cannot take place until 6 months have elapsed following that loss of sight.

Regulation 3 substitutes a new clause 1 in the Second Schedule to the principal regulations, which relates to the standard for vision.

The requirement in relation to candidates for certificates of competency as masters and mates and applicants for sea-going licences as masters or deck officers is amended to insert the correct reference to the regulations that now apply in respect of sight testing.

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 6 March 1997.

These regulations are administered in the Ministry of Transport.