

	SCV Code Directive 2013	Directive 003 - 2013
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The Director of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 7, sub-section (3) of the Merchant Shipping Act 2006, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, makes the following Directive.

1 Citation and commencement,

This Directive may be cited as the SCV Code Directive 2013 and shall come into force on 1st July 2013.

2 Definitions.

The following definition is added to the set of definitions included in Chapter 1 Part A regulation 2 of the SCV Code:

“Safe haven”, means a place where a boat may be anchored, beached or berthed in such a manner that all persons on board can be safely disembarked.

3 Application,

This Directive applies to all Antigua and Barbuda ships which operate in the waters of Antigua and Barbuda and which are certified under the Small Commercial Vessel Code which is applied by the Shipping (Small Commercial Vessels) regulations, 2008.

4 Waters designated by the Administration.

(i). In accordance with Chapter 1 regulation 2 of the Small Commercial Vessel Code, (the Code), the administration may designate waters which are “coastal waters” or which are “protected waters”. The Director therefore makes the following designations to be used in setting the certification and operating limits for small commercial vessels operating in Antigua and Barbuda waters and certified under the Code.

(i) Protected waters, is designated as all the coastal waters of Antigua extending to not more than 1 mile offshore and not more than 3 miles from a safe haven.

(ii) Coastal waters, is designated as the area of water surrounding Antigua and Barbuda extending to not more than 20 miles from a safe haven in Antigua or Barbuda and does not include any international voyage.

5 General exemption.

(i). In accordance with Chapter 1, regulation 3.2 of the Code, and with power contained in regulation 4 of the Shipping (Small Commercial Vessels) regulations 2008, the administration may exempt any vessel or description of vessel from any or all provisions of the Code. The Director makes the following exemption:

- (i) Any vessel operating solely within protected waters as defined in 4(1)(i) above is exempted from the requirement to carry the liferafts or buoyant apparatus set out in Chapter VI, regulation 2.2 of the Code during daylight hours provided that the vessel is equipped with:
 - (a) At least one portable hand-held waterproof VHF transceiver readily available at the conning position,
 - (b) At least one fixed VHF radio with an independent power supply independent of any other vessel electrical systems,
 - (c) Storage of all the lifejackets carried in accordance with Chapter VI regulation 6 of the Code in lockers or similar arrangements on deck and immediately accessible to passengers and crew without any requirement to go below deck to obtain them in an emergency,
 - (d) Two or more fully independent propulsion engines installed in separate machinery spaces such that the vessel is always able to reach a safe haven at no less than half normal cruising speed in the event of one propulsion system being completely unavailable,
 - (e) A fully functional fixed fire extinguishing system in all propulsion machinery spaces in accordance with Chapter 5, Part B regulation 10 of the Code, and
 - (f) An operational fire detection system in all propulsion machinery spaces in accordance with Chapter 5, Part B regulation 10 of the Code.

May 2013

Signed by the authority of the Director of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping