

# Domestic Commercial Vessel (DCV)

# ADVISORY NOTE



DCV-A-001

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014

**Topic:** Should delegates accept survey reports from Attested Persons and Other Sources?

**Issue:** We have been asked to reiterate advice available via a number of sources as to whether survey reports from attested persons and other sources should be accepted by delegates in order to decide to issue National Law certificates..

**Advice:** **In short there is an expectation that delegates should accept a report from an attested person unless the delegate has grounds to believe they do not reflect the artefact.**

Survey and associated reports come to National System delegates from a variety of sources. These include Class societies, reports from other delegates attested people, specialists such as crane inspectors, compass adjusters, metallurgists, fire extinguisher servicing companies, electrical and gas inspectors, divers, etc.

**The work of the National System would not be possible if these reports were not accepted.**

AMSA has a Recognised Organisation arrangement in place with a number of listed Class Societies to ensure the work they do is to the acceptable standard. AMSA expects delegates to accept reports from Class Societies in accordance with the published guidance note: ***Classification Societies and the National Law Guidance Notice AMSA746.***

Attested Persons are listed on the AMSA website and on the NRIP portal- at <https://www.nationalsystem.amsa.gov.au/confluence/display/SDIP/Standards>

Delegates have attested that the people found here are competent to carry out the surveys and activities they are listed to perform. In the case of private surveyors a more detailed list of approved capabilities is available on the NRIP portal (***NRIP 00450***). AMSA expects that delegates can and should rely on these lists to determine if the person has the competency to carry out the service they are reporting on.

AMSA advises that it expects delegates to accept survey reports from these attested people unless there are grounds to believe that the report and artefact do not match, or there is a concern with the quality of or content of the reports. If this is the case then AMSA should be immediately informed so action can be initiated. Fees and charges for this type of activity will remain a matter for delegates.

AMSA has published a number of survey checklists which may be used - alternatively the format of reports can be agreed between the delegate and the attested person, in the same way multiple report formats might be expected from persons such as electricians, compass adjusters etc. Early communication of expectations should happen so no client is inconvenienced.

There is, of course, no compulsion on an individual delegate to accept any report. However in rejecting a report and therefore declining to issue a Certificate of Survey, it is important that the grounds for rejection are clearly documented and communicated to the applicant for the Certificate. A decision not to issue a Certificate of Survey on the grounds that the delegate decides not to accept a report from an attested person would be a reviewable decision under S38 (1) of the National Law.

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