

# ATTENTION: Fish Harvesters and Mariners

## Marine Emergency Duties (MED) Training

Transport Canada Marine Safety (TCMS) wishes to notify all interested parties of a recent policy decision to extend the implementation period for basic marine safety training for crewmembers **aboard small commercial and fishing vessels** as required under Section 21 of the Crewing Regulations of the *Canada Shipping Act*.

TCMS will not take enforcement action against crewmembers on small fishing vessels less than 150 GRT and commercial vessels on Home Trade IV and Minor Waters voyages prior to **April 1, 2007** provided that individuals can demonstrate that they have registered for the requisite marine safety training by **July 30, 2003**.

Please also be advised that TCMS has approved 2 new marine emergency duty (MED) courses, the MED A3 and the MED A4, for crewmembers on vessels operating within specified limited distances from shore.

MED A3 will be allowed in lieu of MED A1 for crewmembers on fishing vessels operating no more than 20 miles offshore and passenger vessels, not including ferries with unberthed accommodation, only on minor waters and Home Trade IV voyages.

MED A4 will be allowed in lieu of MED A1 for crewmembers on board fishing, aquaculture and non-passenger carrying vessels operating in sheltered waters no more than 2 miles from shore.

The MED A1 course will continue to apply to crewmembers aboard vessels operating beyond these limits.

## VHF Radio Installation with Digital Selective Calling (VHF-DSC Radio)

Please be aware that new requirements for VHF-DSC Radio operations for certain vessel types will be coming into force by **August 1, 2003**.

The new requirements apply to: ships of closed construction that are more than 8 m in length; ships carrying more than six passengers; and towing vessels.

The requirements do not apply to ships on inland voyages nor to ships on home-trade voyages, Class IV, that are within a Vessel Traffic Services zone.

The requirements are detailed under *Ship Safety Bulletin* No. 04/2002 (2002-04-09)

Please contact the nearest **Transport Canada Marine Safety office** for further information or refer to Transport Canada website: [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca).

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### Newfoundland and Labrador

Corner Brook: (709) 637-4390  
Lewisporte: (709) 535 2503  
Marystown: (709) 279-2201  
St. John's: (709) 772-5166

### Prince Edward Island:

Charlottetown: (902) 566-7987

### Nova Scotia:

Dartmouth: (902) 426-2060  
Port Hawkesbury: (902) 625-0803  
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