

Marine Information Bulletin

Measuring a ship for insurance requirements

Issued November 2019. Updated November 2020.

Purpose

This marine information bulletin provides for ship owners to ensure that they measure their ship in accordance with the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995* (TOMPA). This legislation requires all ships over 15m (for example 15.01m) in length overall* to have enough insurance to pay for potential pollution clean-up, salvage and wreck removal.

How do I measure for TOMPA?

To ensure that you as the ship owner are covered for your insurance requirements you must know how long your ship is, when it is measured using the measuring method as prescribed in the legislation. Below is an extract of the legislation and an image that outlines the length overall and what is and is not included for this measurement (for example, anchor rollers, pulpits and swim platforms are not included in this measurement).

Note – The definition of 'Length overall' in TOMPA corresponds with the term 'length on deck' in the *National Standard for Commercial Vessels: Part B General Requirements*.

Legislation

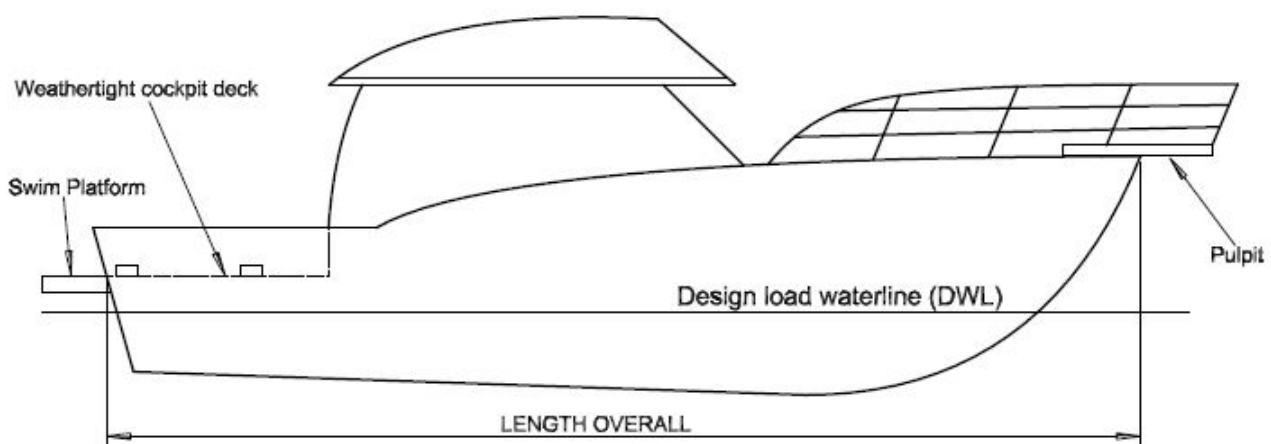
*Extract from *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995* Part 1 Preliminary:

7A Meaning of *length overall*

(1) The *length overall* of a ship is the distance in the fore and aft line from the foremost part of the hull of the ship to the aftermost part of the hull of the ship taken at the upper weather tight deck or, for an open ship, at the height of the gunwale.

(2) However, the *length overall* of the ship does not include the length of appendages to the hull.

Example— A bowsprit or boarding platform is not taken into account when measuring the length overall of a ship.



Further information

For further information contact your local Maritime Safety Queensland office:

Airlie Beach	+61 7 4841 4500
Bundaberg	+61 7 4132 6600
Cairns	+61 7 4052 7400
Gladstone	+61 7 4971 5200
Hervey Bay	+61 7 4194 9600
Mackay	+61 7 4944 3700
Sunshine Coast	+61 7 5373 2310
Brisbane	+61 7 3632 7500
Southport	+61 7 5585 1810
Townsville	+61 7 4421 8100

Other Marine Information Bulletins about the safe operation of ships are available on Maritime Safety Queensland's website www.msq.qld.gov.au