



Darren Chester

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

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Domestic commercial vessels national system extension

- **AMSA will now commence all service delivery on 1 July 2018 as the sole maritime safety regulator**
- **Decision follows industry engagement and feedback**

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) will commence full service delivery of the national system as Australia's sole maritime safety regulator on 1 July 2018, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said today.

Following extensive consultation with industry Mr Chester said a decision had been made to defer the original start date.

"We remain committed to the national system which is delivering safety benefits for commercial boating, fishing and tourism operations across Australia," Mr Chester said.

"The feedback we received from industry has been given careful consideration and I discussed it with my state counterparts at the Transport and Infrastructure Council meeting on Friday to determine the best approach for a safe and cost effective system.

"Importantly, the industry remains supportive of a national system of maritime safety regulations.

"By extending the timeframe to 1 July 2018 we will allow each state, the Northern Territory and stakeholders in the domestic commercial vessel industries to better consult and prepare for the changes before AMSA assumes responsibility.

"This provides time to work with the States, Northern Territory and industry to develop common sense levies that are fair and equitable.

"In July 2013, AMSA became the national regulator for Australia's domestic commercial vessel fleet, providing a single set of safety standards across all states and territories called the 'national system'.

"Since then, marine safety agencies in each state and in the Northern Territory have provided certification and compliance services on behalf of AMSA and now this approach to service delivery will continue until 1 July 2018.

"The feedback has been integral to getting the details right."

For more details please visit <http://amsa.gov.au/domestic/>

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