

11. Dangerous cargo

11.1 General

The Gladstone Ports Corporation is responsible for the management of dangerous goods in port, including the loading and unloading of ships alongside and movement across the wharf.

Maritime Safety Queensland is responsible for monitoring and managing the safe movement of ships in Queensland waters. The Regional Harbour Master will assist the port authority in controlling traffic movement in the port, maintaining on-water safety distances, and responding to any emergency situation.

Maritime Safety Queensland and other relevant authorities operate under the codes and guidelines of:

- IMO – IMDG Code
- International Chamber of Shipping Oil Companies, International Marine Forum
- Society of International Gas Tankers and Terminals (ISGOTT)
- Australian Standard AS 3846-2005
- AMSA – Australian Annexe to the IMDG Code – Marine Orders 41
- AAPMA – Dangerous Substances Guidelines
- [Transport Infrastructure Act 1994](#).

11.1.1 Notification

Chapter 5 Part 4 of the [Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Regulation 2016](#) outlines the duties of owners and masters of vessels in relation to the carriage of dangerous goods. The regulation requires that ships carrying dangerous goods and bulk liquids must comply with the appropriate directions of the IMDG code and AS3846 and are to notify the port authority and the Regional Harbour Master of the intent to bring dangerous cargo into or depart from a pilotage area,

Ships have to report the information required in section 90(2)(a) of the regulation namely the arrival and/or departure of the ship, the removal of the ship to another berth or anchorage, the transfer of the cargo to another ship the loading of the cargo, and the details of the cargo in an approved form.

Minimum notification times for the scheduled movement or handling of dangerous cargo in a pilotage area are as follows:

| Movement | Minimum notification |
|--|---|
| Ship inbound | 48 hours prior to scheduled arrival at pilot boarding ground |
| Ship departure or removal | 3 hours |
| Ship to ship transfer | 24 hours |
| Loading, removal or handling alongside | 24 hours |
| Operation of a local marine service | 48 hours (See section 90 Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Regulation 2016) |

Table 15 – Dangerous cargo minimum notification times

11.1.2 Dangerous cargo limits

The port authority will promulgate the limits that apply to the class of dangerous cargo loaded and unloaded in the port, including the maximum permissible types and quantities for approved berths.

11.1.3 Dangerous cargo events

Section 93 of the [Transport Operations \(Marine Safety\) Regulation 2016](#) defines a dangerous cargo event as:

- the loss, or likely loss, of the cargo from a ship into Queensland waters;
- a breach, or danger of a breach, of the containment of the cargo that could endanger marine safety;
- anything else involving, or that could involve, the cargo that causes risk of explosion, fire, a person's death, or grievous bodily harm of a person;
- for a cargo that is a materials hazardous only in bulk (MHB) – an event that causes risk of explosion, fire, a person's death, or grievous bodily harm to a person.

The master and or the person-in-charge of a place where a dangerous cargo event has occurred are required to report the event immediately to the Port Control Centre or relevant authority.

A full written report is to be submitted on [Dangerous cargo event report \(form F3220\)](#) to the harbour master as soon as reasonably practical.