

13. Security

13.1 General

The International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS) is administered in Australia by the [Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government \(DITRD LG\)](#). POTL has an approved Maritime Security Plan as required under the [Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Act 2003](#).

A ship's master, prior to entering the Port of Townsville, must report directly to the Port of Townsville Limited or through their respective ship agency the following:

- ISPS compliance number;
- current ship security level or any change to the ship security level whilst in port;
- ship security officer contact details;
- list of expected visitors/contractors;
- nominated provedore;
- crew list and identification; and
- and any security incident (as defined under the ISPS code or maritime transport security legislation) whilst in port.

13.1.1 Security levels

The federal Government determined, and will declare when necessary, three security levels.

- **Level 1:** Minimum appropriate protective security measures will be maintained at all times.
- **Level 2:** Appropriate additional protective security measures will be enacted because of heightened risk of a security incident.
- **Level 3:** Further specific protective security measures maintained for limited times when a security incident is probable or imminent, although it may not be possible to identify the specific target. Ships at a port facility must await instructions from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (DITRD LG) and are to follow their instructions as required.

Unless otherwise advised the port will operate on level 1.

In addition to normal [security measures](#) undertaken, additional security measures on the land and water may be implemented:

- if directed by the Australian office of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government; and/or
- the current ship security level or the port/port facility security level is higher than security level 1.

Additional security measures will include:

- increased number of maritime security guards;
- controlled access to the waterside security zone and/or additional security waterside patrols ;
- controlled access to the ship security zone and landside restricted zone; and

- random or compulsory inspection of all baggage/stores and vehicles.

Responsibility for the implementation of the additional security measures will be agreed through a declaration of security between the ship and Port of Townsville Limited or the port facility operator. If between the ship and the port facility operator, the port security officer must be consulted and agree with the security measures proposed to be implemented.

13.1.2 Shore access to ships and port facilities

Port security officers occupy the gatehouse at the Benwell Road entrance. All persons wishing to access the port must be able, when requested, to demonstrate they have official business in the port and the appropriate authorisation. For example:

- port-issued identification card;
- prior notification via port entry application;
- current drivers' licence;
- Maritime Security Identification Card (MSIC);
- Passport;
- crew visa; and
- additional security requirements such as random and compulsory baggage checks may also be carried out. Port access by members of the public is prohibited.

A number of cameras are stationed around the port to assist security officers monitoring the operations. The vision from these cameras can, if required, be passed onto third parties for their use in investigating incidents. Third parties include but are not restricted to Customs, Police, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and Maritime Safety Queensland.

It is an offence to enter or leave the port area by any means other than a designated entrance or exit. All security breaches, or potential activities that may breach security or cause harm, should be immediately reported to the port control duty officer, for example:

- suspicious activity or person
- unclaimed baggage
- inappropriately parked vehicle
- tampering with cargo and/or ship stores.

13.2 Port security contacts

Marine Services duty officer

Line 1: +61 7 4781 1684

Line 2: +61 7 4781 1683

Facsimile: +61 7 4774 1993

13.3 National security

In line with the federal Government's recent publications to do with the reporting of any possible terrorist activity then these procedures are to be followed.

Contact the National Security 24 hour hotline if you have any information of possible terrorist activity or have seen or heard something suspicious that may need investigating by the security agencies.

24 hour hotline: 1800 123 400

Email: hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au