

GOING TO SEA: COASTAL VESSELS

“Give a man a fish and feed him for a day.
Give him a fishing lesson and he’ll sit in a boat
drinking beer every weekend.”
—Alex Blackwell—

STATUTORY GUIDELINES FOR OPERATION OF COASTAL VESSELS

Once again the voyage starts at the Department of Petroleum Resources.

1.0 Definition

Coastal vessels are specifically used for lifting and/or discharging of bulk petroleum products at the Nation’s Jetties or from shore to shore or tranship to shore. Under no circumstances shall licenced coastal vessels engage in bunkering operations.

2.0 Annual Licence and Verification Fee for Coastal Vessel

- i. An annual non-refundable coastal vessel licence fee of One Hundred Thousand Naira (N100,000.00) in Bank Draft shall be payable to the Federal Government of Nigeria – DPR fees Account, in respect of every ship/barge for which a coastal vessel licence is being sought.
- ii. An annual non-refundable coastal vessel verification fee of Ten Thousand Naira (N10,000.00) in Bank Draft shall be payable to the Department of Petroleum Resources, in respect of every ship/barge for which a coastal vessel licence is being sought.

3.0 Documents Required for Coastal Vessel License

The applicant will forward an application letter on its company letter head for Coastal Vessel Licence to The Director, Department of Petroleum Resources, 7 Kofo Abayomi, Victoria Island , Lagos attaching the following documents:

1. Completed application form
2. Certificate of Incorporation for the company
3. A copy of the company Memorandum and Article of Association.

Company must be authorized to do business in oil and gas.

4. A copy of the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) Certificate of Registration for the vessel
5. A copy of the current insurance cover for the vessel.
6. A recent colour photograph of the vessel (showing clearly the name of the vessel).
7. A copy of the vessel calibration table for volume determination for the vessel.
8. A copy of the income tax clearance certificate of the company for the past three years.

NB: Originals of all the above documents are to be provided for sighting.

4.0 MANDATORY INSPECTION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE COASTAL VESSEL

Operators of coastal vessels are reminded of the existing statutory guidelines for operation of such vessels, which stipulates that All coastal vessels and vessels other than bunkering vessels shall be inspected and licensed by the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) in accordance with the requirements of the Petroleum Regulations.

An inspection team consisting of DPR officials will inspect each of the applicant's vessels designated for transshipment of petroleum products and establish that the vessel is in a safe operating condition and ascertain the following:

1. That the vessel is operated and maintained according to international best practices, in line with the classification society in which the vessel belongs. All ship documents would also be verified to confirm their validity and authenticity.
2. That the principal officers on board the vessel are qualified for the trade in which they engage.
3. All safety equipment such as life jackets/buoys, life boats/rafts are sufficient and good working conditions.
4. Fixed fire extinguishing systems are provided on the main deck, pump room, engine room and have clear operating instructions

posted. Similarly, portable fire extinguishers are available in good order with operating instructions clearly marked.

5. Fixed fire detection and alarm systems are available and in good order.
6. Fire control plan is displayed in the accommodation area.
7. That from ship records, regular drills are conducted and documented for all crewmembers.
8. Procedure for reporting or investigation and close out of accidents, incidence, non-conformities and near misses are in place.
9. Communication and Navigational facilities are available. They include but are not limited to the following:
 - Single side band (SSB) radio, for distant communication with vessels
 - VHF Base Radio
 - Gyro compass and standard magnetic compass
 - Global Positioning System (GPS)
 - Radars
 - Automatic Radar Plotting Aid (ARPA)
 - Echo sounding device
 - Pelorus or compass bearing device
 - Automatic Identification System (AIS)
 - Basic communication system e.g. walkie-talkie, fax, satellite phone etc.
10. The vessel has a Calibration Table for volume determination issued by an organization registered/accredited by the DPR.
11. That the vessel has functioning pumps and sufficient flexible hoses.
12. That the hull has no visible structural defects that could warrant further investigation and that the main deck has no visible corrosion.
13. The vessel has a well equipped and functional workshop.
14. Provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) for all crew.

Please note that the scope of the inspection is not limited only to the aforementioned.

5.0 Vessel Clearance

- (i) Pipelines and Products Marketing Company (PPMC) and DPR Officials at the Jetties will ensure that only coastal vessels duly licensed by the DPR are permitted to load and/or discharge at the Nation’s approved jetties or refineries.

6.0 Prescribed Application Forms

The prescribed application forms can be obtained from the website www.dprnigeria.org.ng or the office at 7 Kofo Abayomi Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria.

7.0 Licence Renewal

All coastal vessel licenses shall be renewable on or before DECEMBER 31 of every year.

DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM RESOURCES (DPR) APPLICATION FORM FOR COASTAL VESSEL LICENCE

FORM: CVL/.....

SECTION A:

- 1. Name of Company:
- 2. Correspondence/Registered Address in Nigeria:
- 3. Name of Coastal Vessel: Type:
- 4. Location of Coastal Vessel:
- 5. Owner/Flag:
- 6. Dead Weight (Metric Tons):
- 7. Year of Built/Place:

-
8. Name and Address of Subsidiary/Affiliate:

9. Certificate of Incorporation: No..... Date:
 (Attach photocopies of Certificate, Memorandum & Article of Association)
10. Application type (New Licence/Renewal)

 (If renewal, attach photocopy of the expiring licence.)
11. Directors:
- | Name | Address |
|-------------|---------|
| Nationality | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
12. Photocopy of current three year Tax Clearance Certificate (Yes/No).....
13. Application fee and verification fee paid, (Yes/No):.....
 (Attach duplicate copies of receipts from DPR.)
14. I/We declare that all the information contained in the application and supporting documents are to the best of my/our knowledge correct.

Name & Signature of _____ Company's Official Stamp &
 Date _____
 Company Executive

SECTION B FOR DPR USE ONLY

- i. Application fee Bank Draft ref.
 No.....

Amount..... Amount in Words:

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ii. Verification fee receipt No... ..

Amount (N.....) Amount in Words:

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iii. Recommendation (Approval/Rejection)

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By..... Signature.....

Date.....

iv. Expiry date of Licence:

v. Licence No:

vi. Approval By: Signature..... Date.....