



MARINE SECURITY

WORKING TOGETHER



LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR CANADIAN MARINE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY



Transport Canada's marine security powers are found in two main legal instruments, the:

- **Marine Transportation Security Act (MTSA)**, and the
- **Marine Transportation Security Regulations (MTSRs)**

The need for a single comprehensive act providing the appropriate legislative framework for addressing security issues within the marine sector was identified in 1994.

The MTSA received royal assent and became effective December 15, 1994, giving the Minister of Transport the legal power to take preventive security action against acts of violence to the Canadian marine transportation system, as well as defining the appropriate and timely response necessary to react to security threats.

Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the International Maritime Organization adopted the **International Ship and Port Facility Code (ISPS Code)**, which came into force July 1, 2004.



In Canada, the ISPS Code was implemented and is currently enforced through the MTSRs.

MARINE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ACT (MTSA)

The MTSA sets out the general powers and authorities of Transport Canada in relation to marine security. The primary purpose of the MTSA is to prevent acts of violence against the marine transportation system.

MARINE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY REGULATIONS (MTSRs)

The MTSRs are performance-based regulations, which enhance marine security. In order to meet this goal, the marine industry has a number of responsibilities, some of which include:

- Developing, submitting, obtaining approval for, and implementing security plans;
- Designating and informing Transport Canada of security officers;
- Training staff on relevant provisions of the approved security plan as well as other applicable security issues;
- Conducting security drills and exercises to test individual elements of the approved security plan;
- Adhering to requirements for vessels entering Canadian waters; and
- Coordinating security for the interface between vessels and marine facilities.

The purpose of the Legislative Framework for Marine Transportation Security is to advance integration with international regulations, while ensuring the highest possible level of security and maintaining efficient international trade. Given the importance of the marine transportation system to the flow of persons and goods within Canada and abroad, this framework is essential to our economic prosperity.

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