

Requirements for fishing vessels whilst at anchor

As a result of the Federal Investigation into the collision between the Australian fishing vessel "TERESA" and the Cypriot bulk carrier "ATLANTIS TWO" off Termination Island, Western Australia, the following advice is directed to fishing vessel operators whilst at anchor:-

1. To increase the radar signature of their vessel(s), operators should consider fitting a radar reflector, mounted in the 'catch-water' position (ie. rigged so that one inverted cone is pointed directly upwards) and in an unobstructed location on the main mast;
2. Vessels must display correct anchor lighting and sufficient deck illumination whilst at anchor;
3. Vessels should be anchored away from commercial sea lanes;
4. Fishing Vessel operators should be aware of the *legal* requirement (under the *International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea*) to maintain a proper look-out at all times, by sight and hearing as well as by all means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions, so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and of the risk of collision.

For further information or clarification, Fishing Vessel operators are encouraged to contact the Senior Nautical Officer in Darwin, telephone (08) 8924 7100.

Signed by: Sri Srinivas
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For further information contact Marine Safety Branch:

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