

VIRGIN ISLANDS
MERCHANT SHIPPING (SAFETY OF COMMERCIAL SAILING
AND MOTOR VESSELS) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 2025

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

REGULATION

1. Citation
2. Regulation 3 amended
3. New Regulation 5A inserted
4. New Regulation 7 inserted

VIRGIN ISLANDS
STATUTORY INSTRUMENT 2025 NO. 72
MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 2001
(NO. 13 OF 2001)

Merchant Shipping (Safety of Commercial Sailing and Motor Vessels)
(Amendment) Regulations, 2025

[Gazetted 10th July, 2025]

The Governor, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 173A, 459 and 467 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2001, No. 13 of 2001, makes the following Regulations:

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Commercial Sailing and Motor Vessels) (Amendment) Regulations, 2025.

Regulation 3 amended

2. The Merchant Shipping (Safety of Commercial Sailing and Motor Vessels) Regulations, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as the “principal Regulations”) is amended in regulation 3 as follows:

- (a) in subregulation (1)
 - (i) by deleting the words “The Safety for Small Commercial Sailing Vessels – a Code of Practice” and substituting the words “The Small Commercial Vessel and Pilot Boat Code of Practice”; and
 - (ii) in paragraph (b) by deleting the word “other” and substituting the word “foreign”;
- (b) in subregulation (2)
 - (i) by deleting the words “The Safety for Small Commercial Sailing Vessels – a Code of Practice” and substituting the words “The Small Commercial Vessel and Pilot Boat Code of Practice”; and
 - (ii) in paragraph (b) by deleting the word “other” and substituting the word “foreign”;
- (c) in subregulation (3)

- (i) by deleting the words “The Code of Practice for Safety of Large Commercial Sailing and Motor Vessels” and substituting the words “The Red Ensign Group Yacht Code”; and
- (ii) in paragraph (b) by deleting the word “other” and substituting the word “foreign”.

New Regulation 5A inserted

3. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting after regulation 5, the following new regulation:

“Equivalents

5A. Where these Regulations or a Code referred to in these Regulations require that a particular piece of equipment or machinery shall be provided or carried in a vessel to which these Regulations apply, or that any particular provision shall be made, the Director may permit any other piece of equipment or machinery to be provided or carried or any other provision to be made in that vessel if he is satisfied that such other fitting, material, appliance or apparatus or type thereof, and or service limitation, or provision is at least as effective as that required by these Regulations or the Code.”.

New Regulation 7 inserted

4. The principal Regulations are amended by inserting after regulation 6, the following new regulation:

“Power to detain

7. In any case where a ship to which these Regulations apply does not comply with the requirements of these Regulations, the ship shall be liable to be detained and section 439 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2001, No. 13 of 2001, which relates to the detention of a ship, shall have effect in relation to the ship.”.

Made by the Governor this 26th day of June, 2025.

(Sgd.) Daniel Pruce,
Governor.