

WEBSITES TO WATCH #4
19 August 2017

United Kingdom Marine Guidance Notes (MGNs)
Marine Information Notes (MINs)
Merchant Shipping Notices (MSNs)

These documents are issued by the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) and are a series of informative notices addressed to the Shipping Community including Owners, Managers, Masters and Agents.

They are to be found as follows:

Marine Guidance Notes (MGNs)

A collection of active Marine Guidance Notes dating from April 2000 is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/marine-guidance-notices-mgns>

Marine Information Notes (MINs)

A collection of active MINs dating from May 2004 is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/marine-information-notes-mins>

MINs tend to give information that is valid for a short period of time, such as timetables for MCA exams or relevant to a small group of people, such as training establishments or equipment manufacturers

Each MIN has a suffix which indicates if it relates to merchant ships and/or fishing vessels thus:

(M) for merchant ship; (F) for fishing vessels and (M+F) applicable to both merchant ships and fishing vessels

Merchant Shipping Notices (MSNs)

MSNs contain the technical detail of regulations called Statutory Instruments (SIs). This is mandatory information, and must be complied with under UK legislation.

MSNs are available on the web address given here dating from February 1963:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/merchant-shipping-notices-msns>

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(M) for merchant ship; (F) for fishing vessels and (M+F) applicable to both merchant ships and fishing vessels

Transport of dangerous goods by sea

A collection of M-notices (MGNs and MSNs) relevant to the transport of dangerous goods by sea is available from March 1999 here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/transporting-dangerous-goods-by-sea-m-notices>

Relevant UK Legislation

Legislation relevant to Merchant Shipping Notices can be found here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/>