

Who's your Designated Person?

Nominating a person/s to monitor vessel safety is mandatory for your Safety Management System.



The designated person is responsible for ensuring safe operation of the vessel, monitoring and supporting safety and pollution prevention aspects of the vessel operation, and for larger operations, providing a link between those onboard and management of the organisation.

Who can be a designated person?



Small owner/operator businesses:
Owner may also be master and designated person



Company with a fleet of vessels:
Should generally be a shore-based person (eg: Operations Manager)



Company with very large fleet of vessels:
Could be more than one person performing the function of a designated person

What are typical duties / responsibilities?



Maintain oversight of how the Safety Management System (SMS) is working and ensure that it's kept up to date



Understand content and purpose of SMS



Provide advice to masters and crew



In large companies, raise safety issues with management



Be contactable by master and crew as appropriate

What is not part of the role?



Emergency contact – designated person and emergency contact are different roles, but can sometimes be performed by the same person



Overrule the master



Address every concern on a vessel. There should be processes in place to ensure safety issues can be raised and addressed onboard in the first instance.

