

Chapter 5 Captain's Responsibilities and Authority

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1.0 Introduction

On all TDI-Brooks International vessels the ship's Captain is in command with **ABSOLUTE and OVERRIDING authority** to make decisions for the safe operation of the vessel and the safety of all persons on board.

The Captain is responsible for operating the vessel in an environmentally sound manner and ensuring the TDI-Brooks Safety Management System is followed according to the Safety Management Manual.

The Captain is expected to request assistance from TDI-Brooks management or any other appropriate source to meet his/her obligations.

The Captain will not be constrained by the Company, ship owner, or charterer from making decisions that are in his professional judgment necessary for the safe operation of the vessel.

2.0 The Captain's Primary Responsibilities

Command/ Leadership

- Exert authority over all persons in matters of ship operation and safety
- Issue orders and instructions to the crew in a clear and simple manner
- Write and post his own standing orders
- Stand regular bridge watch

Security

- Maintain security standards at all times consistent with ISPS standards
- Provide for safe gangway access to the vessel

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- **Safe gangway access-** make sure gangway is secured in such a way that allows for tide fluctuations and at an angle that provides easy access for loading and unloading groceries and luggage. Ensure landing platform from gangway to deck is made of proper stairs or sturdy surfaces and not temporary equipment for example; milk crates or buckets.
- **Gangway watch-** state when it is required, provide gangway watch schedule and supplies

Safety

- Ensure safe and effective daily operation of the vessel
- Personally demonstrate and reinforce adherence to TDI-Brooks safety, health, and environmental protection policies by all on board
- Coordinate with company Port Captain to ensure that
 - SMM procedures are followed and updated as necessary,
 - reports and records are maintained and communicated and updated in the Maintenance and Quality system
 - the crew receives all training necessary for their jobs
- Plan, train, and direct emergency operations

Maintenance

- Maintain the seaworthiness of the vessel
- Maintain vessel, navigation equipment and vessel documents

Science Ops

- Consult with scientists and the port engineer regarding project equipment, requirements, and mission specifics
- Communicate with the party chief in matters pertaining to the scientific mission of the vessel

Crewing

- Conduct crew evaluations
- Disciplinary actions through verbal warnings, in person discussions, written action, and / or removal from the vessel

Regulatory

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- Comply with the laws of navigation, regulations, codes, and statutes that regulate the safe operations of ships
- Liaise with marine agencies and regulatory organizations
- Work under the supervision of Port Captain and /or Port Engineer

Reporting

- Complete and record all required documentation within approved computer-based program
- Turn in required reports in a timely manner
- Report environmental spills to the Port Captain and DPA
- Report near misses and other significant events to the Port Captain as soon as possible
- Complete and turn in a Captain’s Review of the SMS each year

3.0 Additional Duties of the Captain

The Captain must be conversant in and able to implement and enforce the following policies and procedures.

- Safety Management System as defined in the Safety Management Manual (SMM)
- Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plans - (SOPEP) or NTVRP
- ISPS and the Vessel Security Plan
- International, federal, and state regulations applicable to the vessel
- Captain’s standing orders.

3.1 Sanitation Inspections

The Captain or his/her designee shall conduct regular sanitary inspections to ensure all living quarters, the mess room, galley and other compartments are properly and thoroughly cleaned, aired and maintained in a sanitary condition. He/she may choose to inspect a different area each week or all areas once a month. These inspections shall be documented in the bridge logbook in **RED** ink

CFR 46 Subpart E 131.515 Periodic Sanitary Inspections

(a) The Captain shall make periodic inspections of the quarters, toilet and washing spaces, serving pantries, galleys, and the like, to ensure that those spaces are maintained in a sanitary condition.

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(b) The Captain shall enter in the vessel's logbook the results of these inspections.

While this is a US regulation, TDI requires monthly sanitary inspections for all vessels in the fleet in order to ensure that basic sanitary conditions are maintained.

3.2 Review of Crew Documents

Upon joining the vessel, all new crewmembers must submit to the Captain all necessary documents required for his position.

Before the new crewman may begin work on the vessel, the Captain shall first review all documents against those required as listed in the Seaman's Employment Agreement and note in the ship's log that all crewmen have been found certified and qualified and sign the entry.

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