

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY



WHAT IS A HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY?

Fishermen and Vessel Operators work under some of the most hazardous conditions of any occupation, so the crew must be informed of their rights and know how to carry out work in a manner that will not create a health and safety hazard to themselves or others. In doing this, having a Health and Safety Policy sets out your general approach to health and safety. It explains how you, as an employer, will manage health and safety within your working environment. It should clearly say who does what, when and how. You must share the policy, and any changes to it, with your employees. Section 28 of the Nova Scotia Occupational Health and Safety Act states the requirements of a Health and Safety Policy.

THE POLICY STATEMENT SHOULD:

1. Contain a written statement of principles and goals.
2. Be signed and dated by the Captain and Vessel Owner.
3. Must comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
4. Acknowledge the rights of your crew to work in a safe and healthy environment.
5. Show you, as an employer, your commitment to providing a safe and healthy work environment by eliminating or minimizing the hazards that can cause injuries or accidents.
6. Encourage the involvement of all crew members and supervisors in putting the health and safety policy into practice.
7. Be posted in a visible/easily accessible spot and be stated in terms that are easy for everyone to understand.
8. Be followed by everyone aboard the vessel.
9. Be reviewed regularly to keep up to date with the latest regulations.