



Workforce

# Workplace Health & Safety.



The New Zealand Government has placed duties on the seafood industry to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved in the business. These requirements apply on all commercial fishing vessels and cannot be contracted out of.

## 25

In 2015/16, the fishing sector had 23 serious harm incidents and 2 fatalities.



## 370

Maritime New Zealand oversaw 370 surveys of safety management systems on commercial fishing vessels last year.



## 25%

Government and industry are working to reduce maritime sector incidents by 25% between 2016 and 2021.

### NEW ZEALAND APPROACH

Legal requirements for workplace health and safety are prescribed in two Acts of Parliament. In broad terms, the Maritime Transport Act focuses on the safety of the vessel and navigational safety, while the Health and Safety at Work Act focuses on the health and safety of the people on board.

### IMPLEMENTATION

Maritime Rules require operators of commercial fishing vessels to have a certified safety management system in place. This system must cover vessel and personal safety. Operators are also responsible for identifying and controlling risks to health and safety so far as is reasonably practicable.

### COMPLIANCE

The Government has a range of tools and interventions available when non-compliance with rules is identified, ranging from education and advice to investigations, license suspensions and prosecutions.

### COMPARABILITY

The Health and Safety at Work Act is New Zealand's interpretation of the 'Robens approach', which remains the preferred method for legislating workplace health and safety across many Commonwealth jurisdictions, including the UK and Australia.