



SAFETY MANAGEMENT MANUAL

5.1 MASTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND AUTHORITY

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Purpose

The purpose of this procedure is to set forth the Master's responsibilities and authority on vessels operated by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

1. Responsibility

The Master is responsible for:

- The safe and efficient day-to-day operation of the vessel
- Complying with the laws of navigation and the entire body of statutes that regulate ships and seagoing matters
- Maintaining the seaworthiness of the vessel and protecting the interests of the Institution
- Accomplishing the objective of each cruise as defined in the 'Cruise Letter' signed by the Director of WHOI
- Implementing the Safety and Environmental Protection policies of the Safety Management System as defined in this manual
- Motivating the crew in the observation of those policies
- Monitoring and reviewing the Safety Management System and reporting any deficiencies to the Ship Operations Group in accordance with other provisions of this manual
- Preparing the annual Master's review of the Safety Management System
- Acting as Alternate Vessel Security Officer when needed

3. Authority

The Master is in overall command of all personnel and operations aboard the ship. His authority at sea is supreme and overriding. He has the authority and responsibility to make decisions with respect to safety and pollution prevention and to request assistance from the Ship Operations Group or any other appropriate source.

4. Policies & Procedures

The appendix is a guide to the Master's Duties in Checklist Form

The master must support, implement, enforce, and be conversant with the following:

- A. Safety Management System (SMS)
- B. Safety Management Manual (SMM)
- C. Oil Pollution Emergency Response Plan
- D. Ballast Water Management Plan
- E. Waste Management Plan
- F. International and Federal regulations applicable to vessel operations
- G. All WHOI policies and procedures
- H. All state and local regulations