

Notification

All very serious maritime casualties should be notified to GAMA within 6 hours other casualties or incidents must be notified within 48 hours, by the following persons or entities:

- Vessel's Master;
- Owner or Company;
- Geographically competent coastal centre;
- Port authorities;
- Pilots;
- Recognized organization responsible for issuing statutory certificates of the ship;
- Local Maritime Authority;
- Directorate General of Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services;
- Other public or private entities;
- Citizens.



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Aeronautical Meteorology Authority and
Maritime Accident Investigation Office

- Enhancing **MARITIME SAFETY**
- **PREVENTING POLLUTION**
caused by vessel's
- **REDUCING THE RISK** of
Maritime casualties

Procedures for notification

By completing the form available on the website of GAMA or as soon as possible using the contact details.

<http://www.gama.mm.gov.pt/>

Address:

Rua C Aeroporto de Lisboa
1479-077 LISBON - PORTUGAL

Tel: (+ 351) 218 447 146
Direct 24H: (+351) 967 852 458

gama@gama.mm.gov.pt
<http://www.gama.mm.gov.pt/>



REPÚBLICA
PORTUGUESA

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GAMA

GAMA is a core service of the Portuguese Administration in the direct dependence of the government member responsible for the sea.

GAMA's mission is to investigate marine casualties or incidents in order to identify the causes, develop and disseminate appropriate reports, promote studies, formulate recommendations for marine safety that can help in reducing marine casualties and ensure participation in committees, organizations or activities, either nationally or internationally.

The investigation carried out by GAMA aims to identify the causes of accidents and create mechanisms for future prevention and reduction of marine casualties.



Technical investigation of maritime casualties

Following the notification of an accident or incident, GAMA investigators will gather as much evidence as possible so that a decision can be reached about how to proceed. In very serious accidents a safety investigation will begin immediately.

For other casualties, it may be necessary to conduct a preliminary assessment during which further details are obtained to establish whether further investigation is warranted.

All the involved parties will be informed of this decision.

The gathering of as much information as possible relating to the accident/incident will usually involve visiting the vessel(s) concerned, interviewing crew, passengers, shore staff, and other witnesses or survivors, and, collecting physical and electronic evidences.

GAMA maritime casualty's investigators will then analyze the evidences to determine the causal and contributory factors that lead to the accident or incident.

Legal guidelines

- Directive nr. 2009/18/CE, of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009
- Commission Regulation (EU) n. ° 1286/2011, 9th December 2011
- Portuguese Law n. ° 18/2012, 7th May
- Portuguese Decree Law n. ° 236/2015, 14th October

Assignments

- Develop technical research relating to maritime casualties or incidents in order to establish the respective causes;
- Ensure that the technical investigation is initiated immediately after the verification of the casualty or incident, or within two months after the occurrence;
- Ensure the elaboration, in time and rigorously, of the reports of technical's investigations and to promote their dissemination, including findings and any recommendations, within 12 months after the date of the accident;
- Disclose any cause of the maritime casualty or incident;
- Cooperate on technical investigations conducted by the investigative bodies of other Member State;
- Proceed to the collection and analysis of data relating to maritime safety;
- Participate in activities at European or international organizations in the scope of investigation and prevention of maritime casualties;
- Organize and disclose the information related to investigation and prevention of maritime casualties or incidents;
- Prepare, organize and disseminate statistics of maritime casualties or incidents;
- Notify the European Commission of maritime casualties or incidents involving a ship flying Portuguese flag, of maritime casualties or incidents that occurs in the territorial sea of the Portuguese State or in its internal waters and of maritime casualties or incidents involving other substantial interests of the Portuguese State.

Once the investigation phase is completed a report is produced, including safety recommendations where appropriate.

Each investigation report is circulated for consultation to stakeholders and all submissions will be considered before it is published and made publicly available.

All the GAMA's publications – safety Investigation reports, safety recommendations, statistical analysis and others can be viewed and downloaded from GAMA's website.

GAMA's personnel regularly give presentations at maritime colleges and to maritime related associations with the aim of spreading the safety message across the industry, and to the next generation of seafarers.

