



Merchant Shipping Act 1995

1995 CHAPTER 21

PART I

BRITISH SHIPS

1 British ships and United Kingdom ships.

- (1) A ship is a British ship if—
- (a) the ship is registered in the United Kingdom under Part II; or
 - (b) the ship is, as a Government ship, registered in the United Kingdom in pursuance of an Order in Council under section 308; or
 - (c) the ship is registered under the law of a relevant British possession; or
 - (d) the ship is a small ship other than a fishing vessel and—
 - (i) is not registered under Part II, but
 - (ii) is wholly owned by qualified owners, and
 - (iii) is not registered under the law of a country outside the United Kingdom.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d) above—
- “qualified owners” means persons of such description qualified to own British ships as is prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State for the purposes of that paragraph; and
- “small ship” means a ship less than 24 metres in length (“length” having the same meaning as in the tonnage regulations).
- (3) A ship is a “United Kingdom ship” for the purposes of this Act (except section 85 and 144(3)) if the ship is registered in the United Kingdom under Part II (and in Part V “United Kingdom fishing vessel” has a corresponding meaning).

Status:

Point in time view as at 24/11/2011. This version of this provision has been superseded.

Changes to legislation:

Merchant Shipping Act 1995, Section 1 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 July 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.