



Australian Government

**Seafarers Safety, Rehabilitation
and Compensation Authority**

**NOTICE TO MARITIME INDUSTRY ORGANISATIONS
AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES**

NOTICE NO 05/2009

REVISED INDEXATION OF COMPENSATION BENEFITS
(effective 1 July 2009)

1. This notice revokes and replaces Notice No 01/2009 for the following reasons:
 - A rounding error in the calculation formula resulted in an underestimation of the benefits payable.
 - The proclamation of the *Employment and Workplace Relations Amendment Act 2009* (EWRA Act) amended the value of benefits under section 29 'Compensation for injuries resulting in death' of the *Seafarers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1992* (Seafarers Act), with effect from 4 June 2009.
 - The EWRA Act amended the Seafarers Act by inserting section 23A, which requires the benefits under subsection 29(3), (4) or (5) to be subject to movement in the Wage Price Index (WPI) over the 12 month period ending 31 December immediately before the relevant 1 July, rather than the Consumer Price Index (CPI), from 1 July 2009.
2. Sections 23 of the Seafarers Act continues to provide for non-death benefits to be indexed on 1 July of each year using the All Groups Consumer Price Index (CPI), over the 12 month period ending 31 December immediately before the relevant 1 July, being the weighted average of the 8 capital cities, published by the Australian Statistician.
3. The movement in the WPI and CPI quarterly index of December 2007 to the quarterly index of December 2008 is detailed in the table below.

4. The amounts effective from 1 July 2009 are:

Subsection	Nature of Compensation Benefit	Amount (\$)	Indexation Factor Applied
29(3)	Death – dependant/s wholly dependent	429,304.00	WPI – 1.042
29(4)	Death – dependant/s partly dependent – maximum	429,304.00	WPI – 1.042
29(5)	Death – dependent prescribed child – amount per week	118.06	WPI – 1.042
30(2)	Funeral expenses – maximum	5,400.26	CPI – 1.037
31(9)	Incapacity – minimum per week	393.79	CPI – 1.037
31(10)	Incapacity – dependant prescribed person/s – additional amount	97.51	CPI – 1.037
31(11)	Incapacity – dependant prescribed child/children – additional amount	48.73	CPI – 1.037
39(9)	Permanent impairment – maximum	155,960.87	CPI – 1.037
41(2)	Non-economic loss – formula amount for: degree of permanent impairment degree of non-economic loss	29,242.68 29,242.68	CPI – 1.037
43(2)	Household services – maximum per week	389.89	CPI – 1.037
43(4)	Attendant care services – maximum per week	389.89	CPI – 1.037
44(1)	Redemption of compensation ceiling – maximum per week	97.51	CPI – 1.037

5. Any enquiries relating to this notice may be directed to the Secretariat & Seacare Management Section.

Secretariat and Seacare Management Section
Comcare

5 June 2009