

Navigation Rules

The Navigation Rules establish actions to be taken by vessels to avoid collision. The Rules are divided into two parts, INLAND and INTERNATIONAL. Inland Rules apply to vessels operating inside the line of demarcation while International apply outside. Demarcation lines are printed on most navigational charts and are published in the Navigation Rules.

The operator of a vessel 39.4 feet/12 meters or greater is responsible for having on board and maintaining a copy of the Inland navigation rules. The following diagrams describe the whistle signals and action to be taken by vessels in a crossing, meeting or overtaking situation while operating in inland waters. These are basic examples, for further information consult the "NAVIGATION RULES" International Inland (Commandant Instruction M16672.2 Series)

Copies of the rules may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954 tel. (202) 512-1800

Crossing Situations

