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| Overview | This standard covers planning for and carrying out dredging operations from a vessel within inland and/or coastal waters.  Dredging operations can include those involving any form of dredging, including for example, cutting, dragging, hopper suction, jetting and ploughing operations.  **Target Group**  This standard applies to individuals at the operational level with responsibility for planning and carrying out dredging from a vessel in inland or coastal waters. |

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| **Performance criteria**  You must be able to: | 1. establish correctly the area to be dredged, the material likely to be removed including its quantity, and identify and assess any related potential hazards 2. use the appropriate vessel, gear and equipment required to carry out dredging operations 3. plan the dredging operation, taking account of the characteristics of the vessel, gear and equipment, the nature of the material to be dredged, and the environment 4. identify any potential areas of uncertainty, and prepare relevant contingencies to address these 5. confirm the destination of the waste materials, that this is adequate and appropriate for the safe and correct disposal of the materials, and that all necessary permissions have been obtained 6. brief all concerned clearly and correctly on the actions to be taken, ensuring that everyone understand their role and the emphasis upon safety 7. notify all relevant persons promptly and correctly of the dredging operation, where relevant 8. confirm that the vessel, gear and equipment is in good working order before use 9. operate vessel and dredging equipment correctly and safely, ensuring that dredging occurs at, and to, the required level 10. dispose of items and dredged materials removed from the water correctly and safely 11. report any suspicious items promptly and accurately to the relevant person 12. maintain a look out and radio watch for other individuals and vessels within the vicinity of the dredging operation and take the necessary action to maximise safe working operations 13. ensure that those working areas above water are clean, tidy and free from obstructions, upon completion of operations |

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| Knowledge and understanding  You need to know and understand: | 1. the operation of the principal types of dredging vessels, gear and equipment used in your area of operations 2. how to plan dredging operations and the factors to take into account 3. how to interpret weather and sea state information and how these can impact upon dredging operations and craft movements 4. how a craft's stability may be affected by dredging operations 5. the importance and impact of Department for Environment and Rural Affairs' (DEFRA) dredging licence, United Kingdom Hydrographic Office's (UKHO) Hydrographic Standards, and other regulations upon dredging operations 6. your organisation's and local navigation authorities' requirements for dealing with reports of hazards and obstructions within navigable channels 7. local geography, including advertised water depths, and water conditions, and their impact upon the movement of craft, obstructions and hazards 8. your organisation's inspection regime for dredging equipment 9. the importance of following safe working practice when dredging, and how to do this 10. methods for minimising environmental damage during work and in the disposal of dredged materials 11. the importance of clear communications on board and with other vessels, and how to do this 12. relevant persons to be notified of dredging operations, and how to do this 13. procedures for dealing with emergencies when dredging |

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| **Developed by** | Maritime Skills Alliance |
| **Version number** | 2 |
| Date approved | January 2012 |
| Indicative review date | December 2016 |
| Validity | Current |
| Status | Original |
| Originating organisation | Skills for Justice |
| Original URN | MSA E11 |
| Relevant occupations | Able seaman |
| Suite | Maritime |
| Key words | vessel, dredging, operation, inland, coastal, water |