



Notes on Rule 1

- Rule 1 applies to different geographic areas but both **INTERNATIONAL and INLAND** rules agree, it applies to "**all vessels**".
- The "**high seas**" of **INTERNATIONAL** waters are outside of the **12 nautical mile demarcation line** off the coastline.
- **INLAND** waters include all waters inside of the **12 nautical mile demarcation line**, including the rivers and Great Lakes.
- There is a high level of consistency between both **INTERNATIONAL and INLAND** rules but the differences between are warranted.
- **Additional station signal lights, shapes, or whistles** are authorized by **BOTH** rules for **warships, vessels proceeding in a convoy, or fishing vessels engaged in fishing as a fleet** but they must be different enough that they cannot be mistaken for any other lights.
- **Vessels that have been designed to perform a particular function** that would have that **function impaired** by complying with the rules are permitted to deviate from the Rules by "**alternative compliance**".
- **All self-propelled vessels 12 meters or more in length**, must carry a copy of the Rules.