

10. Work Permits

10.1 General

In order to be able to perform certain work on ships in the port masters, owners or their agents must first apply for and obtain the necessary permits before that work can proceed. Applications for approval by the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) must be submitted via the QSHIPS program and by fax or email to the relevant authorities; the required terms and conditions are completed by the Regional Harbour Master's office and the agent may then print off the completed permit for passing to the master of the applicable vessel.

Works requiring permits include:

- engine immobilisation
- lifeboat drills
- hot work
- overside work

Ship's masters must comply with all requirements specified in the permit.

Please note that permits for the above works will not be considered for typical operations, unless a regulatory and / or other legislative requirement is in effect requiring the works to be undertaken whilst the vessel is at the berth.

Works strictly prohibited at Amrun Wharf include:

- bunkering
- ship to ship/shore transfer operations
- live flare (pyrotechnic) demonstration.

10.1.1 Permit requests

Table 16 Permit requests

Who	Permit	When	Comments
All ships	Overside work	48 hours prior to arrival	Lodged to Rio Tinto
All ships	Lifeboat drill	24 hours prior to event	Lodged to the RHM and Rio Tinto
All ships	Hot work	48 hours prior to arrival	Lodged to wharf operator
All ships	Engine immobilisation at anchor	24 hours prior to commencement	Lodged to Rio Tinto and RHM

10.2 Work permit description

10.2.1 Immobilisation main engines

Ships are not permitted to immobilise main engines whilst alongside the Chith Wharf.

Ships may not be immobilised without first obtaining written permission from the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns). Permission may not be given for more than 24 hours during the cyclone season (November to April), or more than 48 hours during the rest of the year ([Permission to Immobilise Main Engines](#) section 16.4).

Ships wishing to immobilise main engines must lodge an application via [QSHIPS](#) with the Regional Harbour Master and to the port authority at least 24 hours prior to the requested immobilisation.

Weipa VTS is to ensure that the duty and allocated marine pilots are advised of any work being carried out to main engines in Amrun.

10.2.2 Hot work permit

Ships wishing to carry out repairs and any form of metal work, which includes performing hot work, must lodge an application in writing with the berth operator. When granted, masters must comply fully with the requirements of the permit.

10.2.3 Boat drills

Ships wishing to put boats in the water for painting, maintenance purposes or to carry out lifeboat drills, must first obtain clearance from the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns) and Rio Tinto. This clearance is to be obtained by the vessel's agent. The ship's agent is to lodge an advice via QSHIPS or email to the Regional Harbour Master (Cairns)

Masters are requested to contact Cairns VTS on VHF channel 16/12 prior to commencement and again on completion of such drills when the boats have been returned on board and secured.

10.2.4 Overside maintenance work

For environmental reasons, Rio Tinto has strict guidelines on the performance of overside maintenance work on ships within the port limits. Ships wishing to undertake overside maintenance work must lodge a request, with Rio Tinto for permission to undertake overside work. No scraping of the hull is permitted in port waters.