

# CTU Structure & Stowage

AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025



*Image: Collapsed Container Floor (Source: Safety Alert 01/2025)*

The Club would like to bring to Members' attention [AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025](#) on the subject of structural and stowage requirements for shipping containers and other Cargo Transport Units (CTUs) and has been published in response to an increase in improperly stowed CTUs and structural issues identified during inspection. Two recent incidents of catastrophic structural failure of CTUs highlight "the critical need for ship and container owners, shippers and packers to understand their regulatory obligations and put effective controls in place."

[AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025, applicable to](#) ships entering Australian ports, contains requirements that shippers are to provide cargo that is safe and suitable to transport. Cargo carried in CTUs is to be packed and secured within the units in line with the [Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing \(CSS Code\)](#), [AMSA Marine Order 42](#) (in the Australian water) and follow the guidance within [MSC.1/Circ.1497 - CTU Code and MSC.1/Circ.1498 - Informative material related to CTU code](#).

Any container found to be damaged or unsafe must be withdrawn from service until appropriately repaired.

Members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the content of AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025 and bring the content to the attention of the ship masters and staff to ensure that ships entering Australian ports meet the requirements for packaging and securing of cargoes within cargo units and CTUs.

## Supportive Information

For further information on this or other Loss Prevention topics please contact the Loss Prevention Department, Steamship Insurance Management Services Ltd.

Tel: +44 20 7247 5490

Email: [loss.prevention@simsl.com](mailto:loss.prevention@simsl.com)

# CTU Structure & Stowage

AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025



*Image: Collapsed Container Floor (Source: Safety Alert 01/2025)*

## Resources

[SB05 – AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025 - CTU Structure & Stowage](#)

[AMSA Safety Alert 01/2025](#)

[AMSA Marine Order 42 - Carriage, stowage and securing of cargoes and containers](#)

[AMSA Marine Order 44 - Safe containers](#)

[RA74 – Containerised Cargo Stowage and Securing](#)

[Australian Navigation Act 2012](#)

[AMSA Marine Notice 2022/02 — Proper stowage and securing of cargo containers](#)

[AMSA Maritime Safety Awareness Bulletin - Issue 13 \(March 2021\) - Preventing container loss](#)

[Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing \(CSS Code\)](#)

[MSC.1/Circ.1497 - IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units \(CTU Code\)](#)

[MSC.1/Circ.1498 - Informative material related to the IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units \(CTU code\)](#)

[International Convention for Safe Containers \(CSC\), 1972 \(2014 edition\)](#)