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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2012 No. 1743**

**The Merchant Shipping (Accident Reporting  
and Investigation) Regulations 2012**

**Preliminary assessments**

7.—(1) In the case of a serious marine casualty, in relation to a vessel covered by the Directive, the Chief Inspector must carry out a preliminary assessment in order to decide whether or not to undertake a safety investigation.

(2) When carrying out a preliminary assessment the Chief Inspector must take into account, but need not be limited to;

- (a) the seriousness of the accident;
- (b) the type of vessel and or cargo involved;
- (c) the potential for the findings of a safety investigation to lead to the prevention of future accidents.

(3) Where the Chief Inspector decides not to undertake a safety investigation into a serious marine casualty in relation to a vessel covered by the Directive, the reasons for that decision shall be recorded and notified to the European Commission.

(4) For the purposes of a preliminary assessment the powers in section 259 of the Act shall apply.