



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-131

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Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
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To: Recognized Security Organization (RSO), Ship-owners and Operators Company.

Subject: Authorized Recognized Security Organizations (RSO). Reports and Fees.

Reference: SOLAS 74/78 Chapter XI-2
MMC-156
MMC-159
MMC-205
MMC-207
MMC 324

1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to serve as guidance regarding the amendments to the SOLAS Convention and to the new Chapters regarding Maritime Security and the ISPS Code.
2. The diplomatic Conference on Maritime Security held in London in December 2002 adopted provisions in the International Convention for the safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 and the International Code for the Security of Ships and of Port Facilities (ISPS Code) to enhance maritime security. The ISPS Code has been implemented internationally since the 1st of July 2004.
3. Having regard to the importance of the ISPS Code, the Panama Maritime Authority through its Board of Directors created the Maritime Ships Security Department.
4. The Panama Maritime Authority has incorporated the figure of Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) in the implementation of the ISPS Code.
5. The Panama Maritime Authority has recognized as the RSOs responsible for the **Evaluation of Ship Security Plans (SSP)**:

1. AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING
2. BUREAU VERITAS
3. CR CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY
4. CROATIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING
5. CHINA CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY
6. DNV GL AS (**Technical Certificate DNV GL**)
7. HELLENIC REGISTER OF SHIPPING
8. INDIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING
9. INTERMARITIME CERTIFICATION SERVICES S.A.
10. INTERNATIONAL MARITIME REGISTER (PANAMA), INC.
11. INTERNATIONAL NAVAL SURVEYS BUREAU AND SECURITY SERVICES PRIVATE PROVIDER, S. A.
12. INTERNATIONAL REGISTER OF SHIPPING (PANAMA) INC.

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13. ISTHMUS BUREAU OF SHIPPING
14. KOREAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING
15. LLOYD'S REGISTER GROUP LIMITED
16. MACOSNAR CORPORATION
17. NATIONAL SHIPPING ADJUSTER INC.
18. NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI
19. OVERSEAS MARINE CERTIFICATION SERVICES, INC.
20. PANAMA MARITIME DOCUMENTATION SERVICES INC.
21. PANAMA SHIPPING REGISTRAR, INC.
22. PHOENIX REGISTER OF SHIPPING, S.A.
23. POLSKI REJESTR STATKOW, S.A.
24. QUALITAS REGISTER OF SHIPPING S.A.
25. RINA SERVICES S.p.A.
26. RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING
27. TÜRK LOYDU UYGUNLUK DEGERLENDIRME HIZMETLERI ANONIM SIRKETI (**Technical Certificate TÜRK LOYDU**)
28. DROMON BUREAU OF SHIPPING LIMITED

6. Upon evaluation of the Ship Security Plan (SSP) by any of the above mentioned RSO(s) ship-owners shall be notified of the approval so they can contact a RSO (Verifier) to carry out the verification on board. The following list of RSO(s) has been recognized for the **Verification Process, to issue Interim ISSC Certificate and Short term certificate** in the specific cases of the paragraph 8 and 9.

1. AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING
2. BUREAU VERITAS
3. CR CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY
4. CROATIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING
5. CHINA CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY
6. DNV GL AS (**Technical Certificate DNV GL**)
7. HELLENIC REGISTER OF SHIPPING
8. INDIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING
9. INTERMARITIME CERTIFICATION SERVICES S.A.
10. INTERNATIONAL MARITIME REGISTER (PANAMA), INC.
11. INTERNATIONAL NAVAL SURVEYS BUREAU AND SECURITY SERVICES PRIVATE PROVIDER, S. A.
12. INTERNATIONAL REGISTER OF SHIPPING (PANAMA) INC.
13. ISTHMUS BUREAU OF SHIPPING
14. KOREAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING
15. LLOYD'S REGISTER GROUP LIMITED
16. MACOSNAR CORPORATION
17. NATIONAL SHIPPING ADJUSTER INC.
18. NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI
19. OVERSEAS MARINE CERTIFICATION SERVICES, INC.
20. PANAMA MARITIME DOCUMENTATION SERVICES INC.
21. PANAMA SHIPPING REGISTRAR, INC.
22. PHOENIX REGISTER OF SHIPPING, S.A.
23. POLSKI REJESTR STATKOW, S.A.
24. QUALITAS REGISTER OF SHIPPING S.A.
25. RINA SERVICES S.p.A.
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7. Starting from August 2016, the Interim International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC) will be issued accordance to Section A/19.4 of the ISPS Code and the RSO carried out the verification in accordance to the ISPS Regulation 19.4.2.

8. The Interim ISSC shall be issued in a Form corresponding to the model given in the Appendix 2 to the Part A of the ISPS Code and the validity should not exceed more than six (6) months. During this period the Recognized Security Organization (RSO) and the company operator should ensure to make all the necessary arrangements to complete the Initial verification in order to apply for the ISSC Full Term. This Administration **does not authorize the issuance of a short term certificate** after carried out the Initial Verification, only in the cases described in point 9.

All RSO must to coordinate with the operator/owner to complete all the inspections/audit or visits during the validity of the ISSC interim (no more than six months) taking into consideration that the company operator needs to apply for the ISSC Full Term.

We kindly request all Recognized Security Organizations and company operators to avoid requesting an ISSC extension. The issuance of a second interim will not be allowed.

9. For renewal verification and the following cases the Recognized Security Organization (RSO) shall issue a Short Term Certificate which should not exceed more than five (5) months.

1. Change of vessel name
2. Change of physical address of the operator company
3. Change of name of the operator company
4. Change of tonnage
5. Change of type of vessel
6. Change of Company IMO Number

10. In both cases, the Interim International Ship Security Certificate and Short Term certificate must be identified with the correct name in order to apply for the International Ship Security Certificate (**ISSC FULL**).

11. The Panama Maritime Authority will issue a Full International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC) to a vessel according to the MMC 205 when the RSO carried out the verification and submits a report to the Panama Maritime Authority detailing the inspection carried out and determining that the vessel is found in compliance with the approved ship security plan.

12. Starting from September 1st, 2017 all Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) should verify during any ISPS Verifications, that the Company Security Officer designed by the Company Operator, already has the Declaration of Company Security Officer duly endorsement by Panama Maritime Authority and indicate the name of the CSO in the Audit Report in accordance with chapter XI-2 of SOLAS and part A.6 Obligations of the Company of the ISPS code.

13. The ISSC certificate shall be renewed after five (5) years of validity, and also an intermediate verification must be realized between the second and third anniversary date of the certificate by the RSO.

REPORTS:

14. According to Merchant Marine Circular (MMC-159) all Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) that must submit by e-mail to ro-panama@segumar.com a monthly report indicating the Ship Security Plan Approvals (SSP) and Endorsement for Intermediate ISSC. This report must include the following information ([monthly report format](#)):

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- a. Name of ship
- b. IMO Number
- c. Type of certificate (endorsement or approval)
- d. Number of Certificate or Approval
- e. Date of issuance or approval
- f. Expiration date (as applicable)
- g. Amount of Surcharge (as per MMC No.324 & No.67)
- h. Approval Certificate number
- i. Kind of audit (endorsement)
- j. Date of audit (endorsement)
- k. Place of audit (endorsement)

FEES:

15. According to the Resolution J.D. 002-2010 dated February 3, 2010 and Merchant Marine Circular 324 the following fees are established for approvals, emission, re-emission, endorsement and change of name or any modifications of plans and must to be paid to this Administration since this date.

1. Ship Security Plan (SSP) **US\$50.00**
2. Endorsement for Intermediate Verification of the ISSC **US\$50.00**

For further assistance please note below contact points:

Maritime Ships Security Department

Phone (507)501-5037/5085

Fax (507)501-4202

Email: isps@amp.gob.pa

November, 2017 – modification of paragraph 14

November 2017 - Inclusion of DROMON BUREAU OF SHIPPING LIMITED

November 2017- Inclusion of TÜRK LOYDU UYGUNLUK DEGERLENDIRME HIZMETLERI ANONIM SIRKETI
(Technical Certificate TÜRK LOYDU)

July 2017-Modifications of DNV GL AS (Technical certificate DNV GL) and correction in name of paragraph 5 and 6 point 12.

June 2017 – Cancellation of PANAMA MARINE SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES INC. (PMSCS)

April 2017 – Cancellation of UNIVERSAL SHIPPING BUREAU INC and ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD.

March 2017 - Inclusion of new point 12 and changes in bullets of points 13,14,15

February 2017 - Inclusion of CROATIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING

February 2017-Suspension PANAMA MARINE SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES INC. (PMSCS)

February 2017 – Cancellation of PANAMA REGISTER CORPORATION.

January 2017 – Exclusion of ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD due to end of operations from December 31st, 2016.

January 2017 – By request of the RSO, exclusion of UNIVERSAL SHIPPING BUREAU INC. due to end of operations.

October 2016 – Correction in the points 5 (8) (10) and 6 (8) (10)

September 2016 – Cancellation of Global Shipping Class, Inc., and Panama Bureau of Shipping, Inc.

August 2016 – Modification of point 7, 8, 9 and 10 (ISSC interim and Short Term).

June 2016- Modification of point 13 (Reports)

June 2016 - Cancellation of PHOENIX MANAGEMENT SERVICES GROUP, INC.

May 2016 – Modification of point 8

April 2016 – Suspension of GLOBAL SHIPPING CLASS INC.

February 2016 – Suspension of PANAMA BUREAU OF SHIPPING and PANAMA REGISTER CORPORATION

January 2016 - Modification of points 7,8 New paragraphs 9,10 and Exclusion of STET MARITIME PTE. LTD.

November 2015- Change of REGISTRO ITALIANO NAVALE to RINA SERVICES S.p.A.

November 2015 – Change of the Subject name. New paragraphs and modifications of paragraphs.

September 2015 – Inclusion of ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD

July 2015 - Cancellation of ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD

June 2015 – Merger of Det Nnorske Veritas & Germanisher Lloyd to DNV GL AS

March 2015 - Cancellation of Aspiotis Maritime Ltd.

February, 2015 – Cancellation of Global Shipping Bureau, Inc.

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November, 2014 – Inclusion of one RSO on point 6
May, 2014 – Inclusion of two RSO on point 6, and two on point 8
March, 2014 – Modification of point 10
February, 2014 – Cancellation of one RSO
October, 2013 – Changes in point 9 and email of point 13
July, 2013 – Changes in subject and point 13
April, 2013 – Cancellation of two RSO
August, 2012 - (inclusion of new RO / RSO)
January, 2012 - (inclusion of both Permanent & Provisional companies as per Res. No. 106-18-DGMM)

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:
Maritime Ships Security Department
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5037
Fax: (507) 501-5256
E-mail: ispsaudit@amp.gob.pa

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