



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC- 67

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To: **Recognized Organizations (ROs), Classification Societies, Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, and Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates.**

Subject: **Issuance of Tonnage Certificates**

Reference:
Ley No. 6 of October 27, 1977
Resolution 603-07-01-ALCN of December 1986
Resolution 106-37-DGMM of August 2010
IMO Resolution A.494(XII)

As of 1 January 1987, procedures for the issuance of Tonnage Certificates to Panamanian flag vessels became effective. These procedures have been determined after detailed consultations and agreements with all interested parties. The changes do not affect the relationship between ship-owners and Class Societies or other Recognized Organizations nor the validity of Tonnage Certificates already issued to Panamanian flag vessels.

A. International Tonnage Certificate

In summary, this Merchant Marine General Directorate has taken a more active role in the verification of the determination of gross and net tonnages and in the issue of the final International Tonnage Certificate. The procedure is as follows:

1. The determination of gross and net tonnages will continue to be carried out by Class Societies and other Recognized Organizations already authorized to do so.
2. After the completion of the determination of gross and net tonnages of a vessel, Class Societies or the other Recognized Organizations may issue an Interim Tonnage Certificate with a maximum validity of six (6) months.
3. Class Societies and other Recognized Organizations will then present to the SEGUMAR Offices, the final Full Term Certificate sealed and signed by a responsible officer of the recognizing organization, together with the required information supporting the determination of gross and net tonnages as well as the ship's drawings.
4. The SEGUMAR Offices will verify the determination of gross and net tonnages and may ask the Class Society or other Recognized Organization for additional information. In case of a discrepancy, the SEGUMAR Office may request that the certificate be modified prior to its endorsement.

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5. Once the determination of gross and net tonnages is verified, the SEGUMAR Office will validate the Certificate through the signature of an authorized person and will send it back to the Class Society or Recognized Organization for forwarding to its destination.

B. Fees Recognized to the Administration for the endorsement of ITC

1. For the endorsement of the final Certificate, Class Societies and other Recognized Organizations will remit to the government of the Republic of Panama the following fees based on the Gross Tonnage of the vessel which the Certificate is issued.

Gross Tonnage	Fee (U.S. Dollars)
Up to 49	50.00
50 to 299	75.00
300 to 499	100.00
500 to 999	150.00
1,000 to 4,999	250.00
5,000 to 9,999	300.00
10,000 to 14,999	400.00
15,000 and over	500.00

2. In the case of sister ships, a 50% discount is to be applied to the fee of the second or succeeding vessels if the tonnage has been determined by the same Class Society or Recognized Organization, as long as the full fee was paid for the first vessel. However, the fee will never be less than \$50.00.
3. The basic fee shall be applicable in full with the issue of every Tonnage Certificate. However, when a Tonnage Certificate is issued in duplicate forms, one each for the Spanish and English languages, the fee shall be paid for only one of the forms.
4. Payments are to be made quarterly every year (after every three (3) months period). Payments can be made in bank drafts, international money orders or transfers to the order of the Panama Maritime Authority.

C. Re-Issue of the Certificate

1. SEGUMAR Offices will Re-issue the Tonnage Certificate only in cases of Certificates previously endorsed or issued by this Administration.
2. Tonnage Certificates will be re-issued by the Administration in the following cases and a fee of USD 100.00 will be charged:
 - a. Change of vessel's name.
 - b. Replacement of the Certificate (such as loss of the original).
3. Owners may apply directly to the Directorate, New York Office, in these cases, without going to the organization involved in the calculations.

D. Determination of gross and net tonnages for Vessels less than 24m in Length

1. The SEGUMAR Office, has the exclusive responsibility for the determination of gross and net tonnages and the issuance of Certificates for vessels less than 24m in Length (as defined in Art.2(8) of the International Tonnage Convention 1969) holding an International Registry Certificate.

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2. When contacted, Class Societies and other Recognized Organizations are to advise the owners/operators of these vessels to get in touch with the nearest SEGUMAR Office to arrange for the determination of gross and net tonnages and the issuance of this National Tonnage Certificate.

February, 2015 - *completely reviewed, fees have no changes.*

Revised July 1993

June 1992/

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:

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