



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-309

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

Subject: Procedures for Transfer of Statutory and Class Certification

**Reference: MMC-304, RO Code, IACS PR1A Procedure for Transfer of Class, MSC-MEPC. 5/Circ.2
IACS PR1D – Procedure for Class Entry of Ships not subject to PR1A or PR1B
IACS PR12 - Statutory Certification at change of Class without Change of Flag
IACS PR28 – Procedure for Change of Flag**

TRANSFER OF STATUTORY AND CLASS CERTIFICATION

1. The Code for Recognized Organizations (RO Code) indicates that all RO shall establish and implement appropriate common requirements and procedures concurring statutory certifications.
2. The RO code provides requirements to be fulfilled by the losing organizations and joining organization in cases of transfer of the certification.
3. The aim of the present circular is to provide guidelines to ensure the adequacy of transfer of **class-related** matters between recognized organizations (ROs)
4. Recognized Organizations which implement IACS PR1A Procedure for Transfer of Class are not compelled to implement this circular.
5. Recognized Organizations which not implement IACS PR1A Procedure for Transfer of Class are required to implement the MSC-MEPC. 5/Circ.2 dated 26 September 2005 SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION-RELATED MATTERS – Guidelines for

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Control N°: F-RIN-04-01	Versión: 06	Date: August 1, 2016
		Page 1 of 2

Administrations to ensure the adequacy of transfer of class-related matters between recognized organizations (ROs)

6. We request our Recognized Organizations to inform ship-owners who intend to transfer the class on the implementation of this Circular.
7. Whenever a Recognized Organization requires to report to our Administration, any non-observance of what is established in this Merchant Marine Circular, and in all the aforementioned regulations and procedures, must contact the Administration through the following e-mail: ro-panama@segumar.com

SUSPENDED OR CANCELLED RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

1. Ship-owners are advised that a vessel holding certificates issued by an RO that has been cancelled or suspended by this Administration, must as soon as possible contact another RO duly authorized by this Administration (please refer to MMC-136 for the latest list of authorized RO's) to begin with the replacement of the certificates issued by the previous RO. The certificates issued by a suspended or cancelled RO will remain valid until the date of the next annual/intermediate/periodical endorsement or renewal, provided that all annual/intermediate/periodical endorsements have been carried out in due time and within the correspondent time frame. The new certificates issued by the gaining RO will have the same expiration date as the previous certificates.
2. Statutory Certificates that do not require an expiration date will be re-issued by the gaining RO.
3. Plans and booklets required for the issuance of statutory certificates will have to be re-approved or accepted as approved by the gaining RO.

May, 2017 –*New guidance included for vessels holding statutory certificates issued by an RO/RSO that has been cancelled or suspended by this Administration.*

Reference included to IACS Procedures

April, 2015

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

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