



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-327

PanCanal Building
Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
Tel: (507) 501-5355
mmc@amp.gob.pa

To: Master, Ship-owners, Operators, Company Security Officers, Ship Security Officers and Recognized Security Organizations (RSO's) of Panamanian Flagged Vessel.

Subject: Security Measures sailing in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG)

Reference: 1982 UNCLOS
SOLAS Chapter XI-2 Regulations 3.1 and 6.6
MMC 228
MMC 238
MMC 245

1. The Panama Maritime Authority encourages all Panamanian flagged vessels transiting the Gulf of Guinea, to increase the security measures on board and to comply with any security regulations recommended, in territorial waters, by the Coastal and Port Authorities; taking into consideration the recent piracy attacks occurred in the region (hijacking, kidnapping and armed robbery).
2. The Panama Maritime Authority further encourages the implementation of the necessary security measures established by this Administration through anti-piracy Merchant Marine Circulars, in particular MMC No. 238.
3. The use of Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) should not be considered as an alternative to the Best Management Practices (BMP) or other protective measures. The use of PMSC is an exclusive decision of the Ship-owner or Operator, and is only recommended outside the territorial waters of the coastal countries of the Gulf of Guinea. In cases where the use of PMSC is permitted within the territorial waters of a country, the shipowner or ship operator must follow the national regulations applicable by the country in this regard.
4. This Administration recognizes that an essential part of preventing, deterring and suppressing attacks is prompt reporting to the appropriate authorities and organizations, both during and post-incident.

For further assistance and/or inquiries please note the following contact points:

A. Maritime Ships Security Department (weekdays from 08:30 to 16:30 hrs local time)

Panama City, Republic of Panama
Phone: +507-501-5037/5085/5020
E-mail address: asp@amp.gob.pa

B. SEGUMAR Panama (Evenings, Weekends and Holidays)

Panama City, Republic of Panama
Phone: +507-501-5350/48 or +507-501-5032
E-mail address: authorizations@segumar.com

Prepared by: Lawyer	<i>Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief</i>	<i>Approved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>
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C. Absolute Maritime Tracking Services, Inc. (a Pole Star company)

Phone: +507-301-5748

Fax: +507-301-5749

E-mail address: activations@absolutemaritime.com

Website: <http://www.polestarglobal.com>

D. IMB (International Maritime Bureau) Piracy Reporting Centre

Phone: +60-3-2031-0014 (manned 24/7 everyday)

Fax: +60-3-2078-5769

E-mail addresses: piracy@icc-ccs.org and IMBKL@icc-ccs.org

Website: <https://icc-ccs.org/piracy-reporting-centre>

E. Marine Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GoG)

Brest, France and Portsmouth, England.

Phone: +33 (0) 2 98 22 88 88

E-mail addresses: watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org

Website: N/A

January, 2018 - Update of mail

January, 2017 – Inclusion of information of contact of MDAT-GoG.

March, 2016- Changes all throughout the text, new point C and D.

March, 2016

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

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