

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

Ministry of Finance and Treasury

Office of the Directorate of Merchant Marine Circular No. 94

Consular and Maritime Affairs

To: Shipowners/Operators, and Masters of Panamanian Flag Vessels,
Subject: Panama Policy – GMDSS Flag Vessels

Licensing - GMDSS Radio Qualified Personnel On Panamanian Flag Vessels

For a vessel fitted with GMDSS, the following would be the requirements for radio qualified personnel:

1. GMDSS Radio Operator - Restricted
2. GMDSS Radio Operator - General
3. GMDSS Radio Electronic - First Class
4. GMDSS Radio Electronic - Second Class

These licenses will be issued on the following basis:

Validation

Panama has validated the certificates of competency of forty-three countries, and, hence, any person serving on Panamanian registered vessels having one of the certificates denoted above that is, 1.,2.,3., or 4., can apply for the Panamanian corresponding equivalent certificate and receive such without taking the Panamanian examination for such.

Course Validation

For applicants that cannot validate, a diploma/certificate from an approved GMDSS course, must be presented. A license will be issue, showing the same grade specified in the diploma/certificate (Example: "If the Diploma/Certificate from an approved GMDSS course specifies GENERAL, a license "GMDSS RADIO OPERATOR - GENERAL" will be issue).

Any applicants holding a Radiotelegraph First or Second Class from either Panama or any of the forty three countries listed for validation will be issued a "GMDSS RADIO ELECTRONIC -SECOND CLASS" without taking an examination.

Examination

For applicants that cannot apply under any of the above two conditions, the following will have to be presented at the time of application: license from any other Administration not listed for validation or a license as an Officer, in either case the applicant will have to take an examination for the grade required.

The cost for these licenses will be as follow:

1. GMDSS RADIO OPERATOR - RESTRICTED \$ 70.00
2. GMDSS RADIO OPERATOR - GENERAL \$ 70.00
3. GMDSS RADIO ELECTRONIC - FIRST CLASS \$ 140.00
4. GMDSS RADIO ELECTRONIC - SECOND CLASS \$ 140.00

There will an extra charge of \$30.00 for applications by examination. Owners are reminded that there is an extra \$ 10.00 charge for application done at any of the Merchant Marine Consular Offices abroad.

MMC No. 94 Replaces MMC No. 86

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