



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
International Representative Office, N.Y.

Merchant Marine Circular No. 141

To: Shipowners/Operators, Masters, Legal Representatives and Recognized Organizations

Subject: Dry docking Interface Periods for Panamanian Flagged Vessels

References: Law Decree No. 7, SOLAS' 74 as amended

The purpose of this circular is to establish clear dry docking period and procedures for Panamanian vessels.

The Panama Maritime Authority notify all Ship Owners/ Operators, Legal Representatives and Recognized Organizations of the Dry Docking periods for the Panamanian Flag registered vessels, which are as follows:

1. **Cargo vessels of 500 Gross Tonnage** and above irrespective of service area shall be subject to a minimum of two inspections of the ship's bottom, during any five year period. This five (5) year period may be extended to coincide with the extended period of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate, International Load Line Certificate, International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate (if applicable); or any other certificate affected by the surveys carried in dry dock ;In all cases the interval between any two such inspections shall not exceed 36 months.
2. **Cargo vessels of less than 500 Gross Tonnage** irrespective of the navigation area shall be subject to a minimum of two inspection of the ship's bottom during any five year period.
3. **Fishing ships of 24 meters in length and above** irrespective of the navigation area shall be subject to a minimum of two inspection of the ship's bottom during any five year period.
4. **Fishing vessels of less than 24 meters in length** irrespective of the navigation area shall be subject to a minimum of two inspection of the ship's bottom during any six year period.



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The Recognized Organization surveyors shall be appointed to attend and supervise the dry docking of every vessel and submit to the keep in at least the Main Office the Dry Dock Survey Report with the conclusion of the inspected areas, repairs and pending items, the Administration may request at any time those surveys reports and related documentation used for the analysis and evaluation of the vessel condition.

The Dry Docking of Cargo ships should coincide with the renewal or intermediate survey of the Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate, International Load Line Certificate, International Oil Pollution Certificate (If applicable) or any other related certificate.

Dry docking for emergency repairs after a damage of the vessel or any other fortuity circumstances will be not be taken as one of the dock attendance specified in the paragraphs 1,2,3,4 if the vessel do not carry out the equivalent surveys according to the International Standards, Requirements of the Flag or the Recognized Organization acting on their behalf.

The Administration may require the supervision of a Flag State Surveyor if necessary by written order of the General Director of Merchant Marine.

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