



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
**Directorate General of Merchant Marine**  
Segumar Panama

## **Merchant Marine Circular No. 175**

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**To: Owners/Operators of Panamanian Vessels, Recognized Organizations, Masters, and Port State Control Authorities.**

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**Subject: Crew Dispensation**

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**References: Article VIII, International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 78/95 (STCW 78/95).**

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1. Article VIII of the **International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers 78/95**, establishes that in circumstances of exceptional necessity, Administrations, may issue a crew dispensation; based on the analysis of the situation and provided that this does not cause any danger to persons, property or the environment.
2. The dispensations have been issued by the General Directorate of Seafarers; but taking into consideration that as of November 2007, the Segumar Panama office is providing a 24 hours service, seven days a week and created with the purpose of giving prompt response to the urgent requests of the Panamanian flagged vessels, effectively July 21, 2008, the crew dispensations will be granted by Segumar Panama office.
3. Therefore, from this date on, every request for dispensation shall be sent to this Office through the following e-mail address [msm@segumar.com](mailto:msm@segumar.com), or by fax to +507 501-5363/5364. For any further assistance related to this matter, please contact the numbers at Segumar Panama.

**July, 2008**

**Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:**  
**General Directorate of Merchant Marine**  
**Panama Maritime Authority**  
**Phone: (507) 501-5010**  
**Fax: (507) 501-5011**