



Merchant Shipping Directorate



PLACEMENT OF PRIVATELY CONTRACTED ARMED SECURITY PERSONNEL (PCASP) ONBOARD MALTESE SHIPS

Merchant Shipping Notice 106

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,
Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations*

The Directorate would like to draw the attention of all concerned to the publication of the General Authorisation (Protective Security Measures on board Ships) Regulations, 2013, Legal Notice 19 of 2013. The Regulations regulate the carriage and use of firearms and ammunition on board Maltese ships by Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP).

In accordance with the Regulations, the Directorate may consider to authorise the placement of PCASP onboard Maltese ships operating in a High Risk Area (HRA). When the shipowner¹ considers the placement of PCASP, prior authorisation needs to be obtained from the Directorate.

Applications shall be submitted to the Merchant Shipping Directorate on the enclosed [form](#) to comms.isps@transport.gov.mt. All applications shall be accompanied by a Voyage Plan and Crew List for the duration of the stay of the PCASP onboard. When submitting an application for consideration, the shipowner is undertaking that:

- i. the Ship Security Plan is developed and updated with the Ship Security Assessment considering that the ship is operating in a HRA;
- ii. the provisions of these circulars and shipping notices have been considered and applied:
 - a. MSC.1/Circ.1405/Rev.2;
 - b. MSC.1/Circ.1339;
 - c. Merchant Shipping Notice 71;
 - d. Merchant Shipping Notice 82;
- iii. the master of the ship retains overall responsibility for the safety and the security of the ship;
- iv. the embarkation of additional personnel is in line with the requirements concerning safety equipment onboard and crew accommodation requirements;
- v. all firearms and ammunitions are removed from the vessel when PCASP disembark;

¹Shipowner means the owner of the ship or another organization or person such as the manager, or the bareboat charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for the operation of the ship from the owner and who, on assuming such responsibility, has agreed to take over the duties and responsibilities imposed on shipowners.



- vi. all firearms and ammunitions are not to be deployed from the designated secure keeping in sea areas which are not defined as 'High Risk Area';
- vii. the national requirements regarding firearms in coastal and port States are complied with;
- viii. the PCASP are:
 - a. qualified for providing the service for which they are being engaged;
 - b. qualified in the use of the firearms being taken onboard;
 - c. in possession of certificates for the four elements of basic training, namely:
 - Personal survival techniques (STCW A-VI/1-1);
 - Fire fighting and fire prevention (STCW A-VI/1-2);
 - Elementary first aid (STCW A-VI/1-3); and
 - Personal safety and social responsibility (STCW A-VI/1-4);
- ix. any details or documents required shall immediately be made available at the request of the Maltese competent Authority.

To this effect, shipowners of Malta flagged ships are required to abide with Legal Notice 19 of 2013 and the provisions of this Notice when planning their operations and, to extend their full cooperation for their enforcement.

The shipping community is reminded that without prejudice to the penalties contemplated in the said regulations, the use of firearms on Maltese ships, without prior authorisation may be considered as being against the interest of Malta and of Maltese shipping and may lead, inter alia, to closure of registry.

The electronic copy of Legal Notice 19 of 2013 can be downloaded from <http://justiceservices.gov.mt/DownloadDocument.aspx?app=lp&itemid=24474&l=1>.

Merchant Shipping Directorate

8 March 2013



Merchant Shipping Directorate

Placement of Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP) on board Maltese ships in accordance to Merchant Shipping Notice 106



Transport Malta

Malta Transport Centre Marsa, MRS 1917 Malta Tel: +356 2125 0360 Fax: +356 2124 1460 Email: comms.isps@transport.gov.mt, www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration/

Name of ship				IMO number	Call Sign 9H
Gross Tonnage	Overall length (meters)	Operating Speed (knots)	Freeboard to the lowest deck (meters)	Description	Cargo
Interested Parties		Name		Incorporated	Company Number
Registered Owners					
ISM Company					
Charterer					
Other / Remarks					
Master				Contact details	
Ship Security Officer					
Company Security Officer					

Private Maritime Security Company		Incorporated	Company No.
PMSC Responsible person		Contact details	

Privately Contracted Armed Security Personnel:

Name	Nationality	Passport Number
Embarkation date	Embarkation point / port	
Disembarkation date	Disembarkation point / port	

Firearms:

Firearm	Serial no.	Caliber	Ammunition Type	Ammunition Qty.
Loading date	Loading point / port			
Unloading date	Unloading point / port			

The undersigned declares that the details contained herein are correct and that the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Notice 106 have been complied with.

Company Security Officer
Name:
Date:

Registrar General of
Shipping and Seamen