

# Merchant Marine Circular

Panama Maritime Authority  
General Directorate of Merchant Marine  
Control and Compliance Department

## MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-131

- To:** Recognized Security Organization (RSO), Ship-owners and Operators.
- Subject:** Authorized Recognized Security Organizations (RSO), Reports and Fees.
- Reference:** Law No. 38 June 4th, 1995 UNCLOS 1982.  
Resolution No. 106-11-DGMM of August 21th, 2009.  
**MMC-156** - Exemption, Conditional, Interim and Full-Term Certificates.  
**MMC-324** - Administrative Fee imposed by the Republic of Panama for each statutory certificates and approvals issued by Class Societies and Recognized Organizations duly authorized by the Panama Maritime Authority.  
**MMC-359** - Guidance for the implementation and certification of the ISPS Code.  
Resolution J.D. 076-2021 of October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

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1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to serve as guidance regarding the amendments to the SOLAS Convention and to the new Chapters on Maritime Security and the ISPS Code.

2. **SCOPE:**

This Merchant Marine Circular applies to all our stakeholders the list of Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) authorized to issue Interim ISSC, Short Term Certificate and Ship Security Plan Approvals Certificate.

3. **BACKGROUND:**

Comply with the regulations issued by this administration related to the Control of the issuance certificates, endorsements, plan approvals, audit report.

4. The diplomatic Conference on Maritime Security held in London in December 2002 adopted legal provisions in the International Convention for the safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974 and the International Code for the Security of Ships and of Port



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Facilities (ISPS Code) to enhance maritime security. The ISPS Code has been implemented internationally since the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004.

5. In regards to the importance of the ISPS Code, the Panama Maritime Authority through its Board of Directors created the Maritime Ships Security Department.
6. The Panama Maritime Authority has incorporated the figure of Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) in the implementation of the ISPS Code.
7. The Panama Maritime Authority has recognized as the RSOs responsible for the Evaluation of Ship Security Plans (SSP):
  1. AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING.
  2. BUREAU VERITAS MARINE & OFFSHORE SAS (**Technical Certificate BUREAU VERITAS**).
  3. CR CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY.
  4. CROATIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
  5. CHINA CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY.
  6. DNV AS (**Technical Certificate DNV**).
  7. INDIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
  8. INTERMARITIME CERTIFICATION SERVICES S.A.
  9. INTERNATIONAL MARITIME REGISTER (PANAMA), INC.
  10. INTERNATIONAL NAVAL SURVEYS BUREAU, S.A. (I.N.S.B).
  11. INTERNATIONAL REGISTER OF SHIPPING (PANAMA) INC.
  12. ISTHMUS BUREAU OF SHIPPING.
  13. KOREAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
  14. LLOYD'S REGISTER GROUP LIMITED.
  15. MACOSNAR CORPORATION.
  16. NATIONAL SHIPPING ADJUSTER INC.
  17. NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI.
  18. OVERSEAS MARINE CERTIFICATION SERVICES, INC. (O.M.C.S.).
  19. PANAMA MARITIME DOCUMENTATION SERVICES INC.
  20. PANAMA SHIPPING REGISTRAR, INC.
  21. PHOENIX REGISTER OF SHIPPING, S.A.
  22. POLSKI REJESTR STATKÓW S.A.
  23. QUALITAS REGISTER OF SHIPPING S.A.
  24. RINA SERVICES S.p.A.
  25. RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
  26. TÜRK LOYDU UYGUNLUK DEGERLENDIRME HIZMETLERI ANONIM SIRKETI (**Technical Certificate TÜRK LOYDU**).
  27. DROMON BUREAU OF SHIPPING LIMITED.
  28. NEW UNITED (INT'L) MARINE SERVICES LIMITED.
  29. EMIRATES CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY (TASNEEF) L.L.C.
  30. RS CLASSIFICATION SERVICES SINGLE-MEMBER PRIVATE COMPANY, INC.



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## 31. PANAMA CLASSIFICATION BUREAU INC.

8. Upon evaluation of the Ship Security Plan (SSP) by any of the above mentioned RSO(s) ship-owners shall be notified of the approval so they can contact a RSO (Verifier) to carry out the verification on board. The following list of RSO(s) has been recognized for the Verification Process, to issue Interim ISSC and Short term certificate, according to the MMC-359:

1. AMERICAN BUREAU OF SHIPPING.
2. BUREAU VERITAS MARINE & OFFSHORE SAS (**Technical Certificate BUREAU VERITAS**).
3. CR CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY.
4. CROATIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
5. CHINA CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY.
6. DNV AS (**Technical Certificate DNV**).
7. INDIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
8. INTERMARITIME CERTIFICATION SERVICES S.A.
9. INTERNATIONAL MARITIME REGISTER (PANAMA), INC.
10. INTERNATIONAL NAVAL SURVEYS BUREAU, S.A. (I.N.S.B).
11. INTERNATIONAL REGISTER OF SHIPPING (PANAMA) INC.
12. ISTHMUS BUREAU OF SHIPPING.
13. KOREAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
14. LLOYD'S REGISTER GROUP LIMITED.
15. MACOSNAR CORPORATION.
16. NATIONAL SHIPPING ADJUSTER INC.
17. NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI.
18. OVERSEAS MARINE CERTIFICATION SERVICES, INC. (O.M.C.S.).
19. PANAMA MARITIME DOCUMENTATION SERVICES INC.
20. PANAMA SHIPPING REGISTRAR, INC.
21. PHOENIX REGISTER OF SHIPPING, S.A.
22. POLSKI REJESTR STATKÓW S.A.
23. QUALITAS REGISTER OF SHIPPING S.A.
24. RINA SERVICES S.p.A.
25. RUSSIAN MARITIME REGISTER OF SHIPPING.
26. TÜRK LOYDU UYGUNLUK DEGERLENDIRME HIZMETLERI ANONIM SIRKETI (Technical Certificate TÜRK LOYDU).
27. DROMON BUREAU OF SHIPPING LIMITED.
28. NEW UNITED (INT'L) MARINE SERVICES LIMITED.
29. EMIRATES CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY (TASNEEF) L.L.C.
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31. PANAMA CLASSIFICATION BUREAU INC.



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## 9. REPORTS:

9.1. According to Merchant Marine Circular (MMC-159) all Recognized Security Organizations (RSO) must submit by e-mail to [ro-panama@segumar.com](mailto:ro-panama@segumar.com) a monthly report indicating the Ship Security Plan Approvals (SSP) and Endorsement for Intermediate ISSC. This report must include the following information:

- a) Name of vessel
- b) IMO Number
- c) Type of certificate (endorsement or approval)
- d) Number of Certificate or Approval
- e) Date of issuance or approval
- f) Expiration date (as applicable)
- g) Amount of Surcharge (as per MMC-324)
- h) Approval Certificate number
- i) Kind of audit (endorsement)
- j) Date of audit (endorsement)
- k) Place of audit (endorsement)

## 10. FEES:

10.1. According to Resolution J.D. No. 076-2021 dated October 28, 2021 and MMC-324 the following fees are established for approvals, emission, re-emission, endorsement and change of name or any modifications of plans and must to be paid to this Administration since this date.

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1. Ship Security Plan (SSP)                              | USD75.00 |
| 2. Endorsement for Intermediate Verification of the ISSC | USD75.00 |

For further assistance, please note below the points of contact.

**August, 2023** – correction in the paragraph 5 point 2 and paragraph 6 point 2- BUREAU VERITAS MARINE & OFFSHORE SAS (**Technical Certificate BUREAU VERITAS**).

**November, 2022** – Update the Reference and paragraph 8.1

**April, 2022** - Update in the reference and change of name in paragraph 5 point 2 and paragraph 6 point 2 - name BUREAU VERITAS MARINE & OFFSHORE SAS.

**February, 2021** – Change of name in paragraph 5 point 6 and paragraph 6 point 6 – name DNV AS (**Technical Certificate DNV**).





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**December, 2020** – Inclusion of Panama Classification Bureau INC.

**December, 2020** – Changes of PMA numbers.

**March, 2020** – Suspension of Panama Classification Bureau INC.

**August, 2019** – Exclusion of HELLENIC REGISTER OF SHIPPING

**June, 2019** - Change of name POLSKI REJESTR STATKÓKW S.A.

**January, 2019** - Inclusion of PANAMA CLASSIFICATION BUREAU, INC. & RS CLASSIFICATION SERVICES SINGLE-MEMBER PRIVATE COMPANY, INC

**October, 2018** - Inclusion of EMIRATES CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY (TASNEEF) L.L.C.

**October, 2018**- Inclusion of NEW UNITED (INT'L) MARINE SERVICES LIMITED

**April, 2018** - Change of name in paragraph 5 point 11 and paragraph 6 point 11 and exclusion of paragraphs 7 to 13.

**March, 2018** - Inclusion of O.M.S.C in paragraph 5 & 6 point 19.

**November, 2017** – Modification of paragraph 14.

**November, 2017** - Inclusion of DROMON BUREAU OF SHIPPING LIMITED

**November, 2017**- Inclusion of TÜRK LOYDU UYGUNLUK DEGERLENDIRME HIZMETLERI ANONIM SIRKETI (Technical Certificate TÜRK LOYDU

**July, 2017**– Modifications of DNV GL AS (Technical certificate DNV GL) and correction in name of paragraph 5 and 6 point 12.

**June, 2017** – Cancellation of PANAMA MARINE SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES INC. (PMSCS)

**April, 2017** – Cancellation of UNIVERSAL SHIPPING BUREAU INC and ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD.

**March, 2017** - Inclusion of new point 12 and changes in bullets of points 13,14,15.

**February, 2017** - Inclusion of CROATIAN REGISTER OF SHIPPING.

**February, 2017**-Suspension PANAMA MARINE SURVEY AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES INC. (PMSCS).

**February, 2017** – Cancellation of PANAMA REGISTER CORPORATION.

**January, 2017** – Exclusion of ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD due to end of operations from December 31st, 2016.

**January, 2017** – By request of the RSO, exclusion of UNIVERSAL SHIPPING BUREAU INC. due to end of operations.

**October, 2016** – Correction in the points 5 (8) (10) and 6 (8) (10)

**September, 2016** – Cancellation of Global Shipping Class, Inc., and Panama Bureau of Shipping, Inc.

**August, 2016** – Modification of point 7, 8, 9 and 10 (ISSC interim and Short Term).

**June, 2016**- Modification of point 13 (Reports)

**June, 2016** - Cancellation of PHOENIX MANAGEMENT SERVICES GROUP, INC.



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**May, 2016** – Modification of point 8

**April, 2016** – Suspension of GLOBAL SHIPPING CLASS INC.

**February, 2016** – Suspension of PANAMA BUREAU OF SHIPPING and PANAMA REGISTER CORPORATION

**January, 2016**- Modification of points 7,8 New paragraphs 9,10 and Exclusion of STET MARITIME PTE. LTD.

**November, 2015**- Change of REGISTRO ITALIANO NAVALE to RINA SERVICES S.p.A.

**November, 2015** – Change of the Subject name. New paragraphs and modifications of paragraphs.

**September, 2015** – Inclusion of ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD

**July, 2015** - Cancellation of ST EDUCATION AND TRAINING PTE. LTD

**June, 2015** – Merger of Det Norske Veritas & Germanischer Lloyd to DNV GL AS

**March, 2015** - Cancellation of Aspiotis Maritime Ltd.

**February, 2015** – Cancellation of Global Shipping Bureau, Inc.

**November, 2014** – Inclusion of one RSO on point 6

**May, 2014** – Inclusion of two RSO on point 6, and two on point 8

**March, 2014** – Modification of point 10

**February, 2014** – Cancellation of one RSO

**October, 2013** – Changes in point 9 and email of point 13

**July, 2013** – Changes in subject and point 13

**April, 2013** – Cancellation of two RSO

**August, 2012** - (inclusion of new RO / RSO)

**January, 2012** - (inclusion of both Permanent & Provisional companies as per Resolution No. 106-18-DGMM).

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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Circular or any other request should be directed to:

Maritime Ships Security Department  
General Directorate of Merchant Marine  
Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5086 / 5085

E-mail: [isps@amp.gob.pa](mailto:isps@amp.gob.pa)

Website: <https://panamashipregistry.com/circulars/>