



# TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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## MARINE CIRCULAR

### MC-4/2017/1

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**FOR:** Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Recognized Organizations, Flag State Inspectors

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON MARITIME CYBER RISK MANAGEMENT**

#### DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- “BIMCO” – Baltic and International Maritime Council
- “CLIA” – Cruise Lines International Association
- “IACS” – International Association of Classification Societies
- “ICS” – International Chamber of Shipping
- “IMO” – International Maritime Organization
- “INTERCARGO” – International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners
- “INTERTANKO” – International Association of Independent Tanker Owners
- “ISM” – International Safety Management
- “IUMI” – International Union of Marine Insurance
- “OCIMF” – Oil Companies International Marine Forum
- “NIST” – National Institute of Standards and Technology
- “SYBAss” – Superyacht Builders Association
- “USCG” – U.S. Coast Guard
- “WSC” – World Shipping Council

The term “Administration” shall mean the Tuvalu Ship Registry.

#### PURPOSE:

This marine circular serves to provide IMO guidance on maritime cyber risk management to safeguard shipping from current and emerging cyber-threats and vulnerabilities in view of the recommended compliance to IMO Resolution MSC.428(98) from 01 January 2021.

#### REFERENCES:

- a) IMO Resolution MSC.428(98) – Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems, 16 June 2017
- b) IMO MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3/Rev.1 – Guidelines on Maritime Cyber Risk Management, 14 June 2021

#### APPLICATION:

This circular applies to all Tuvalu flagged vessels.

## **CONTENTS:**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Cyber technologies have become essential to the operation and management of numerous systems critical to the safety and security of shipping and the protection of the marine environment.

The IMO recognizes the vulnerabilities of these technologies to cyber risks and cyber threats and noting that the rapidly changing technologies and threats makes it difficult to address these risks only through technical standards, the IMO has recommended that cyber risks are addressed in existing safety management systems required by the ISM Code.

Thus, on 16 June 2017, the IMO adopted Resolution MSC.428(98), "Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems", and on 14 June 2021 issued MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3/Rev.1, "Guidelines on Maritime Cyber Risk Management".

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Though not mandatory, ship owners and operators are encouraged to comply with Resolution MSC.428(98) no later than the first annual verification of the company's DOC after 01 January 2021.
- 2.2 MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3/Rev.1 provides guidance on how to conduct an assessment of the cyber risks for complying with the Resolution.
- 2.3 For vessels intending to call at US ports, ship owners and operators should take into account the "Vessel Cyber Risk Management Work Instruction / CVC-WI-027", as amended, that has been issued by the USCG.
- 2.4 Additional guidance is available from various publications by BIMCO, CLIA, ICS, INTERCARGO, INTERTANKO, InterManager, IUMI, OCIMF, SYBAss, US NIST, WSC, and Consolidated IACS Recommendation on cyber resilience (Rec 166).

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar  
Tuvalu Ship Registry