

Commonwealth of Dominica**Office of the Maritime Administrator**

- TO:** ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS
- SUBJECT:** IMPLEMENTATION OF IMO UNIQUE COMPANY AND REGISTERED OWNER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SCHEME
- REFERENCE:**
- a) SOLAS Chapter IX, Regulation 1, the ISM Code
 - b) SOLAS Chapter XI-1, Regulations 3-1 and 5, (*will come into force on 1 January 2009*)
 - c) IMO Resolution MSC.160 (78), 21 May 2004
 - d) IMO Circular Letter 2554, 24 June 2004
- APPLICABILITY:**
- a) all Companies managing Dominica vessels of 100 GT and above engaged on international voyages
 - b) all Registered Owners managing Dominica vessels of 100 GT and above engaged on international voyages
- PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Circular is to bring to the attention of all concerned the applicable new provisions of SOLAS Convention, introduced in 2004 through adoption of resolution MSC.160(78).

BACKGROUND:

In May 2005, IMO adopted a new SOLAS regulation XI-1/3-1 *Company and registered owner identification number* and amendments to regulation XI-1/5 on the mandatory company and registered owner identification number, with entry into force expected to be on 1 January 2009.

Regulation 3-1 states that "every Company and registered owner shall be provided with an identification number which conforms to the IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme adopted by the Organization." It refers to resolution MSC.160 (78) entitled "Adoption of the IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner

Identification Number Scheme", adopted in 2004 as a measure to enhance maritime safety, security and environmental protection, and to facilitate the prevention of maritime fraud. Its purpose is to assign a permanent number for identification purposes to each Company and/or Registered Owner managing ships engaged on international voyages.

Other amendments add the IMO unique company and registered identification number to relevant certificates and documents in the International Management Code for the Safe Operation of Ships and for Pollution Prevention (the ISM Code) and International ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

APPLICABILITY:

SOLAS Chapter XI-1, Regulations 3-1 and 5 will apply to all Companies and Registered Owners managing ships of 100 gross tonnage and above engaged on international voyages. The Scheme goes into full force and effect on 1 January 2009.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Definitions

- .1 "Company" has the same meaning as in SOLAS regulation IX/1, the ISM Code.
- .2 "Registered Owner" is the owner specified on a ship's Certificate of Registry issued by the Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Administration.

2. Obtaining Numbers

2.1. Lloyds Register-Fairplay (LR - F) is the originating source for the IMO Company and Registered Owner Numbers and is the sole authority with responsibility for assigning and validating these numbers. The Numbers are issued from the global maritime databases maintained by LR-F and consists of a unique seven digit number. LR-F manages this Scheme on behalf of the IMO.

2.2. The Number for the Company and Registered Owner can be obtained by contacting LR-F at the following address using the appropriate form provided in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2:

**Lloyd's Register – Fairplay Ltd
Lombard House
3 Princess Way, Redhill,
Surrey, RH1 1UP, UK
Telephone: +44 1737 379000
Fax : +44 1737 379001**

Web : www.lrfairplay.com

E-mail: owners-data-feedback@lrfairplay.com

2.3. LR-F will accept both paper and electronic request forms (appendices 1 and 2) from Companies or Registered Owners who have not previously been assigned a Number. Companies or Registered Owners also may use the form to update their information. LR-F will confirm updated Company information with the Administration.

3.4. LR-F will also accept both paper and electronic request forms (Appendix 1) from Recognized Organizations (ROs) that undertake Safety Management Certificate (SMC) and Document of Compliance (DOC) audits, and from Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) that undertake International Ship Security Certificate (ISSC) audits, for Companies who have not previously been assigned a Number.

3. Procedures

3.1. The Number remains unchanged upon transfer of a Company and/or Registered Owner's ship to another flag and will be included on a Company's DOC, the ship's SMC, ISSC and CSR certificates wherever the Company and/or Registered Owner's name should appear. The Number remains unchanged, but unused, in the event a Company and/or Registered Owner sells, or otherwise disposes, of its ship(s) and does not begin operating new ship(s). The Number remains unchanged in the event the Company and/or Registered Owner, after having sold or otherwise disposed of its ships, renews ship management at a future time.

3.2. Lloyd's Register-Fairplay (LR-F) maintains a full history audit trail of changes to Company and/or Registered Owner information, with the date of each change recorded. When Companies and/or Registered Owners merge, LR-F assigns the Number of the larger Company and/or Registered Owner to the new amalgamated entity, while the Number of the smaller entity is frozen and not re-used. LR-F maintains the history of Companies and/or Registered Owners of ships on its database.

3.3. The Number is an LR-F number, allocated at the time of issuance of a ship's Certificate of Registry issued by the Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Administration. The Number begins with the letters "IMO" followed by either "Company" or "Registered Owner", and seven digits assigned by LR-F. The IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme are managed in parallel with the IMO Ship Identification Number Scheme without charge by LR-F. The Number(s) are not, however, the same as the IMO Ship Identification Number.

3.4. New Companies and/or Registered Owners managing ships covered by the Scheme are assigned a Number when their ship is registered with the Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Registry. For existing Companies and/or Registered Owners prior to 1 January 2009, the Number should be assigned at an early convenient date, or when any document

detailed in paragraph 2.1 above is issued or renewed. The Number must be assigned whenever any such document is issued, revised or renewed on or after 1 January 2009.

3.5. Original information about a Company and/or Registered Owner will be collected by the Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Administration (DMRI) by means of the application documentation required at the time of registration. The information collected is that which the Dominica Maritime Registry Inc. ordinarily collects during the registration process, namely:

1. Company/Registered Owner name-styles;
2. country/State of incorporation (registration);
3. date of incorporation; and
4. full address (operational address) and contact details.

3.6. During registration, the Administration will expect the Company and Registered Owner to provide the Number assigned to it. The Administration may contact LR-F to confirm the Numbers provided by the Company and Registered Owner. The Administration will also be routinely updating its database with that of LR-F.

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Appendix 1

REQUEST FOR COMPANY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

LLOYD'S REGISTER - FAIRPLAY
Lombard House
3 Princess Way
Redhill
SURREY RH1 1UP

TELEPHONE +44 1737 379061
INTERNATIONAL FAX +44 1737 379001
EMAIL: owners-data-feedback@lrfairplay.com

TO ENABLE ASSIGNMENT OF A COMPANY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:

CURRENT COMPANY NAME (required)

FORMER NAME(S) (if known)

- Please indicate This is a newly established
This is a Change of Company Name
This is a Company Merger

DATE OF INCORPORATION

COUNTRY OF (REGISTRATION)

FULL STREET ADDRESS (required)

TELEPHONE FAX

E-MAIL

IF KNOWN - PARENT COMPANY

IMO ship identification number(s) or if not available other ship
(Please supply at least one IMO ship identification number in the current fleet. This helps in the identification of Company records)

SENDER NAME:

SENDER FAX NUMBER:

SENDER EMAIL:

LR-F Reply:

IMO Company No.

**Appendix 2
REQUEST FOR REGISTERED OWNER
IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

LLOYD'S REGISTER - FAIRPLAY
Lombard House
3 Princess Way
Redhill
SURREY RH1 1UP

TELEPHONE +44 1737 379061
INTERNATIONAL FAX +44 1737 379001
EMAIL: owners-data-feedback@lrfairplay.com

**TO ENABLE ASSIGNMENT OF A REGISTERED OWNER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER,
PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:**

CURRENT COMPANY NAME (required) _____

FORMER NAME(S) (if known) _____

- Please indicate This is a newly established
- This is a Change of Company Name (please give former name above)
- This is a Company Merger (please give former names of all companies above)

DATE OF INCORPORATION _____

COUNTRY OF INCORPORATION (REGISTRATION) _____

FULL STREET ADDRESS (required) _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

E-MAIL _____ WEBSITE _____

IF KNOWN - PARENT COMPANY

IMO ship identification number(s) or if not available other ship details _____
(Please supply at least one IMO ship identification number in the current fleet. This helps in the identification of Company records)

SENDER NAME: _____

SENDER FAX NUMBER: _____

SENDER EMAIL: _____

LR-F Reply:

IMO Registered Owner No. _____