

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1506
TELEPHONE: +1-703-620-4880 FAX: +1-703-476-8522
EMAIL: marsec@register-iri.com WEBSITE: www.register-iri.com

SHIP SECURITY ADVISORY No. 07-24

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Company Security Officers, Recognized Security Organizations

Subject: COMPLIANCE WITH SHIP SECURITY PLAN AND EXECUTION OF SHIP SECURITY OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Date: 27 August 2024

Global ISPS Detentions

The Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator (the "Administrator") has noted an increase in repeatable areas of non-compliance with provisions of the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code. Specifically, deficiencies relating to control of ship access, log keeping, and frequency of security drills have been noted. These deficiencies have led to ships being detained within different Port State Control (PSC) Memoranda of Understanding. Most of these detentions were easily preventable by proper and effective implementation of the Ship Security Plan (SSP).

Detainable Deficiencies

Below is a summary of recent ISPS Code detentions which could have been easily prevented had the ship fully complied with the onboard SSP:

- January 2024:** a bulk carrier was detained in Klaipeda, Lithuania because the gangway watch was not present when PSC Officers arrived.
- May 2024:** a bulk carrier was detained in Corpus Christi, Texas, United States (US) when the gangway watch failed to ask visitors for identification and failed to complete the visitors log (as required by the SSP); and
- August 2024:** a bulk carrier was detained in New Orleans, Louisiana, US when a PSC Officer found that a security drill had not been conducted within the previous three months.

Measures

Owners, Operators, Company Security Officers (CSOs), Masters, and designated Ship Security Officers (SSO) must be proactive in assessing the effectiveness and the implementation of the SSP and daily security practices onboard.

This SSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.

CSOs and SSOs are reminded to:

- ensure gangway watchstanders are sufficiently trained, training is properly logged, and are in place as required by the SSP.
- verify gangway watchstanders require all visitors, regardless of the purpose of the visit, present proper identification and inspect baggage according to the current maritime security level of the port (as required by the SSP).
- thoroughly review during internal ISPS Code audits the onboard security logs and the security practices, ensuring they are compliant with the SSP.
- review security procedures with all crewmembers on a regular basis and conduct frequent walk-throughs to ensure procedures are being followed.

As a reminder, any crew member or ship representative may alert the Administrator of potential substandard security conditions onboard at inspections@register-iri.com.