



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)**

F-265
(DCCM)
V.00



MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-126

To: Master, Shipowners, Operators, Company Security Officers, Ship Security Officer, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Recognized Organizations (RO's) of Panamanian Flagged Vessel.

Subject: Ship Security Officers.

**Reference: SOLAS 74 /78 Chapter XI-2
Section 12 Part A and Section 13 Part B to the ISPS Code
MSC.1/Circ.1334 June 23, 2009
MMC 123
MMC 125
MMC 128**

1. The purpose of this Circular is to update the responsibilities of the Ship Security officer (SSO) as a person designated by the Company Security Officer (CSO) who is responsible for the security of the ship, including implementation and maintenance of the ship security plan and for liaison with the Company Security Officer (CSO), Port Facility Security Officer and this Administration.

2. According to Part A, Section 12 and Part B, Section 13 the SSO shall have the knowledge of, and receive formal training in the elements of Part B, Section 13.1, and specific Company training in the elements of Part B, Section 13.2, of the Code.

2. All Panamanian flagged vessels engaged in international voyages in which the ISPS Code applies, must have on board a Ship Security Officer (SSO) shall be a management level officer. It is highly recommended to give this duty to the Master, Chief Officer, Chief Engineer or Second Engineer, who shall have completed an approved training course regarding the requirements and recommendations of the ISPS Code. If the person designated is not the Master, it must be understood that the Master still holds overall responsibility for the security of the ship which cannot be relinquished.

3. All the Ship Security Officer (SSO) of Panamanian flagged vessels are hereby requested to maintain wide communication with the Company Security Officer (CSO) in order to comply with the measures established in the Ship Security Plan.

4. This Administration urges all Panamanian flagged vessels transiting high-risk areas or operating in ports where piracy attacks occur to carry out a security assessment as a preparation for development of measures to prevent attacks of pirates or armed robbers and on how to react should an attack occurs **MSC.1/1334** (For reference visit *Maritime Security Link, IMO Documents*).

5. For further assistance please note below the contact points:

Maritime Ships Security Department

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June, 2019 – Including in paragraph 4 reference to MSC.1/1334 through Maritime Security Link, IMO Documents).

June, 2013 - Changes all throughout the text

September, 2003

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

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