



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-321

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To: Ship-owners/Operators, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (RO's).

Subject: CONTINUOUS SYNOPSIS RECORD (CSR) ON BOARD

Reference: Amendment to SOLAS Chapter XI-1, Regulation 5
Resolution MSC 198(80)
MMC-183
MMC-313
MMC-325

1. This Administration requests all Owners, Operators and Legal Representatives **to apply for the Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR) immediately the vessel has registered or cancelled from the Panamanian Registry, according to the Merchant Marine Circular No. 183 in order to maintain the correct sequential number and update the information of the CSR in order to avoid inconvenient with maritime authorities.**
2. According to SOLAS Chapter XI-1 regulation 5, paragraph 3, the Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR) is a special measure for enhancing the maritime security at sea and must be kept on board even when the vessel transfers to another flag state, is sold to another owner, is taken over by another bareboat charter, or any other company assumes the responsibility of the ship operation.
3. From 1 July 2004, SOLAS Chapter XI-1, regulation 5 requires all Passenger ships and Cargo ships of 500 gross tonnages and above engaged on international voyages and Self Propelled Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (MODU) to have on board a Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR).
4. The Continuous Synopsis Record is intended to provide an on board record of the history of the ship with respect to the information recorded therein and must be kept on board the ship at all time for inspection.
5. For the purposes of **point 2** of the CSRs issued by Panama, understand by **Date on which the ship was registered:**
 - a). **For ships of new construction:** the date in which the flag data will be assigned will be taken, through the issuance of the Certificate of Registration and payment of the corresponding rate to the Merchant Navy. This assignment will entitle the owner to the use of the data assigned in the documentation needed by the ship during its construction, financing or any other technical and commercial operation of the ship.
 - b). **For ships from another registry:** the date on which the flag application is accepted and the corresponding duties, fees and taxes will be taken as the date of flagging, and where the General Directorate of the Merchant Marine will issue the Patent and License Radio corresponding, as long as the ship is suitable for navigation.

Prepared by: Lawyer	<i>Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief</i>	<i>Approved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>	
Control N°: F-RIN-04-01	<i>Versión: 06</i>	<i>Date: August 1, 2016</i>	Page 1 of 2

In both cases it is understood as **Date on which the ship was registered** the date that appears in the CSR and not the date of the Patent that only refers to the date of issue of the mentioned document.

6. **STARTING FROM JUNE 1st, 2017, the Continuous Synopsis Record (CSR) for New Registry, New Construction or Amendments by changes in the owner address must reflect the same owner address stated in the Radio Licenses.**

7. Vessels not subject to mandatory compliance with the ISPS Code may do so voluntarily. Once issued, the CSR must be kept on board, in accordance with SOLAS regulatory requirements.

8. This Administration will only issue a **NOT CSR CERTIFICATION** where the **SOLAS Chapter XI-1**, regulation 5, does not apply or in cases when the Panama Maritime Authority have to certify any other items in relation with the vessel, according to article 1 paragraph 8 from Resolution J.D. 038-2014.

January 2018 – *Inclusion of paragraph 5.*

January 2017 – *Modification of Paragraph 1 and New Paragraph 5.*

December 2015 – *Modification of Paragraph 6.*

October 2015

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

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		Page 2 of 2