

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
(Ministry of Maritime Affairs)



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Maritime Labour Notice (MLN) – 039

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies

MLC Title 2 Regulation 2.1 Seafarers' Employment Agreements
Use of electronic signatures

This MLN provides guidance on compliance with the Gibraltar regulations which give effect to parts of MLC 2006 Title MLC 2.1 in relation to use of electronic signatures on seafarers' employment agreements. Implementation of these guidelines will be taken as evidence of compliance with the Gibraltar regulations.

Replaces MLN 029

Documents referred to in this notice:

- Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC)
- Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Regulations 2012, Part III, Reg.13
- Electronic Identification and Trust Services for Electronic Transactions Regulations 2017
- Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council

The Maritime Labour Convention 2006 requires that all Shipowners and Seafarers hold an originally signed copy of their SEAs.

Gibraltar Maritime Administration will accept the use of electronic signatures on SEA's as an equivalent to an originally signed SEA, subject to:

1. The software used to generate the electronically signed SEA complying with the requirements of the Gibraltar Electronic Identification and Trust Services for Electronic Transactions Regulations 2017 (as amended), and:
2. Subsequently, the requirements of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (as amended).

For the avoidance of doubt, a simple scanned copy of a written signature is not an acceptable equivalence.

Steve Gomez
Chief Surveyor (Ag)

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