



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

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MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-218

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

Subject: Electronic Charts and Publications in regards to the Carriage Requirements and Crew Training on board Panama Flagged vessels.

Reference: a) Resolution MSC.282 (86), adopted by Resolution 106-OMI-85-DGMM.
b) International Convention on Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS 74), Chapter V (including 2009 Amendments), Regulations 19.2.1.4, 19.2.1.5 and 27
c) IMO Maritime Safety Committee Resolution MSC.232(82), Appendix 6

This Circular complements MMC No. 107

The purpose of this Circular is to inform all ship-owners, operators, Recognized Organizations, Master and officers of vessels registered in our Flag the entry in force of Resolution 106-OMI-85-DGMM of November 22, 2010 by which this Administration adopts Resolution MSC.282 (86) that included, among several amendments, modifications on the carriage requirements of adequate and up-to-date charts and nautical publications necessary for the vessel's intended voyage and the implementation of the mandatory use of ECDIS for applicable vessels. This Circular provides detailed requirements for the carriage of nautical charts and publications in order to ensure the safety of navigation and protection of the environment as well as the standards requirements for ECDIS on board the applicable vessels and the crew certification to demonstrate competency in the use of ECDIS.

Only nautical charts and publications "issued officially by or on the authority of a Government, authorized Hydrographic Office or other relevant government institution"(SOLAS V/2.2) can be used to meet the carriage requirement.

I. Nautical Charts Requirement

- 1 All vessels should carry an adequate portfolio of corrected up-to-date nautical charts necessary to plan and display the vessel's route for the intended voyage, including the approach and details for every port of call, and to plot and monitor the vessel's position throughout the voyage. These charts must be of an appropriate scale and have enough detail to make a safe navigation through the corresponding area. In addition, vessels shall carry nautical charts that might be needed to safely enter a harbor of safe refuge along the intended route.
- 2 As provided by Regulation 19.2.1.4 of reference (b) above, vessels may use an Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) to either partly or fully fulfill this chart carriage requirement, provided however, and bearing in mind that a worldwide ECDIS portfolio of Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC) coverage has not yet been achieved, the following conditions are met:

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Control N°: F-RIN-04-01	Version: 04	Date: 24 July, 2012
		Page 1 of 2

- .1 An appropriate portfolio of back-up paper charts is onboard and ready for use wherever ENC coverage is not available. The number of charts kept as a back-up shall be decided by the owner or Master, and they must be of sufficient number and scale to ensure safe navigation to a port of safe refuge where electronic chart navigation becomes impossible.
 - .2 Other back up arrangements, including a second ECDIS, may be used to meet the back-up requirement of Regulation 19.2.1.5 of reference (b) above, subject to appropriate consideration being given to 2.1 above and 2.4 below.
 - .3 It should be possible to operate ECDIS and all equipment for its normal functioning when supplied by an emergency source of electrical power in accordance with Chapter II-1, Regulation 43.2.4, of the 1974 SOLAS Convention.
 - .4 Changing from one source of power supply to another or any interruption of the supply for a period of up to 45 seconds should not require the equipment to be manually re-initialized (reference (c) above).
- 3 Please be informed that ships to which Regulation V/19.2.10 of SOLAS 74 (as amended) applies shall comply with the carriage requirements for ECDIS detailed therein, and sufficient planning should be anticipated to comply with these new regulatory requirements well in advance of the applicable "first survey" date. Refer to the Unified interpretation of the term "first survey" referred to in SOLAS regulations (MSC.1/Circ.1290).
- 4 In addition, considering that training is a key element in the successful and safe transition to electronic navigation, all ship's officers in charge of a navigational watch on board the vessels to which the ECDIS is mandatory must attend, as a minimum, an approved generic ECDIS operator training course based on the IMO standard model.

II. Nautical Publications Requirement

- 1 For Nautical publications carriage requirements, all interested parties shall refer to our MMC No. 107 for guidance. Moreover, Masters should ensure that any additional nautical publication required by port state regulations for ports where the vessel will be calling during a voyage are onboard and corrected with the latest published corrections.
- 2 Electronic nautical publications may be used to either partly or fully fulfill the requirements of reference (b) above provided the following conditions are met:
- .1 Nautical publications required for voyage planning (examples include sailing directions, coast pilots, light lists, etc.): Either an electronic or paper back-up must be provided. All back-up copies must be corrected and ready for use when needed. When an electronic back-up is carried, portions of the publication needed for the planned voyage should be printed and included with the voyage plan.
- 3 Carriage requirements for other publications are detailed in MMC No. 107 and 108.

May 2015 – Last sentence in paragraph 4 of Section I deleted.

February 2013 – Elimination of point .2, within number 2 of section II.

February 2011

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		Page 2 of 2



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Office of the Department Merchant Marine Circular No.107

Of Maritime Safety

To: Owners/Operators of Panamanian flag Vessels, Class Societies and Authorized

Organizations

Subject: Publications and Records required on vessels of 500 gross tonnage or above with International Registration in the Panamanian Registry

This Merchant Marine Circular circular replaces MMC No. 98.

A. Publications

1. Navigational Charts appropriate for the area of navigation
2. Corresponding Notices to Mariners
3. Pilot charts
4. Nautical Almanac
5. Pilot Books and Sailing Directions
6. Tide Tables
7. Light List
8. Navigation Tables
9. IMO Routing Schemes
10. IMO MARPOL
11. IMO SOLAS
12. IMO COLREGS
13. IMO Port State Control Procedures
14. International Code of Signals
15. Radio Aids to Navigation
16. List of Call Stations *
17. List of Coast Stations
18. List of Radio Determination and special service stations
19. Manual for use by the Maritime Mobile and Maritime Satellite Stations
20. International Life Saving Appliances Code (LSA Code) (Resolution MSC.48(66))
21. International Medical Guide for Ships (Publication of the World Health Organization)
22. IMO Emergency Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods (only for vessels carrying dangerous goods)
23. IMO Medical First Aid Guide for Use in Accidents Involving Dangerous Goods (MFAG) (only for vessels carrying dangerous goods)
24. IMO International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (only for vessels carrying dangerous goods)
25. Panamanian Merchant Marine Circulars

A. Plans and Instructions

1. Muster List and Emergency Instructions
2. Damage Control Plans or Booklets (for all passenger vessels and dry cargo vessels constructed on or after 1 February 1992)
3. Fire Control Plans
4. Fire Equipment Booklet of instructions (optional instead of item 3)
5. Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (SOPEP) (shall be approved by a recognized organization)
6. Intact Stability Booklet
7. Dangerous good manifest or stowage plan (if the vessel carries dangerous goods)
8. Garbage Management Plan (in accordance with Annex V MARPOL)
9. SOLAS Training Manual
10. Shipboard Management Documentation (if the ISM Code is applicable to the vessel)
11. Cargo Securing Manual (in accordance with MSC Circ. 745)

A. Records

1. Compass Error Record Book (magnetic and gyro)
2. Chronometer Rate Record Book
3. Radio Direction Finder Calibration Chart or Table (for vessels that carry the RDF)
4. Radar Record book

5. Radar Maintenance Record Book
6. Garbage Record book (MARPOL Annex V)
7. Oil Record Book (MARPOL Annex I)
8. Cargo Record Book (MARPOL Annex II)
9. GMDSS Maintenance Record Book
10. Engine Room Logbook
11. Engine Room Bell Book
12. Radio Logbook
13. Bridge Logbook
14. Bridge Bell Book
15. Crew Roll List (endorsed by a Panamanian Official or Official Edition)
16. Official Logbook (endorsed by a Panamanian Official or the Official Logbook Edition)
17. Panamanian Annual Safety Inspection Record

*List of Call Signs and Numerical Identities Used by the Maritime Mobile and Maritime Mobile-Satellite Services for vessels trading in Sea Area A3. List of Ship Stations for vessels trading in Sea Area A2

March 1999 (revised)

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