

The Republic of Palau
Palau International Ship Registry
“The Sea Lane to Prosperity”

**MARINE CIRCULAR 15-002 MINIMUM MANNING REQUIREMENTS AND
RE ISSUANCE OF MINIMUM SAFETY MANNING CERTIFICATE (MSMC)**

To: ALL SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, OPERATORS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Subject: MINIMUM MANNING REQUIREMENTS AND RE ISSUANCE OF MINIMUM SAFETY MANNING CERTIFICATE (MSMC)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Palau International Ship Registry, in its constant pursuit of continuous improvement has been reviewing the Minimum Safety Manning Certificates issued to all vessels registered with the Palau Flag. During the review of the MSMC it has been noted that some of the vessels are undermanned as per Palau Minimum Manning Requirements.

1.2 Palau International Ship Registry has recently reviewed and updated the Minimum Manning Requirements that will allow the vessel to maintain safety navigation regardless of its trading area. The new Minimum Manning Requirements is to be adhered by shipowners, managers and Deputy Registrars. Proposals for a change of the Minimum Manning Requirements are welcome and will be reviewed and accepted as long as the safety of the vessel including its deck and engine room watches are not compromised and the MLC, 2006 requirements towards hours of rest can be duly complied with.

1.3 Palau International Ship Registry understand that requesting shipowners and manager to increase the crew onboard its vessel is a costly and time consuming request, however, in order to ensure and promote the safety of the vessel, its crew and the environment such request will be done by this Administration as required.

2. VESSELS REGISTERED WITH PALAU FLAG

2.1 All vessels undergoing Annual Tax / Renewal will have their MSMC reviewed. After the review, if the vessel is found to be undermanned, the shipowner, manager and Deputy Registrar will be advised immediately. The shipowner and / or manager will have 12 months to comply with the Palau Minimum Manning Requirements. Permanent MSMC will be issued, however, in order to be renewed again the vessel shall be in compliance as per the Palau Minimum Manning Requirements.

2.2 Palau International Ship Registry's Seafarers Department will be available to review proposals by the shipowner and managers taking into account: trading area, vessel's size and engine power.

2.3 This Administration kindly request to all shipowners, managers and Deputy Registrars to adhere to the Minimum Safety Manning Requirements table provided in Annex I.

3. NEW VESSELS TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE PALAU FLAG

3.1 New Vessels that are in the process of registration with the Palau Flag shall adhere to the Palau Minimum Safety Manning requirements.

3.2 Safety Manning Requirements issued by Previous Flag will be reviewed for acceptance, however, if found not in compliance with the Minimum Requirements and after review it is the opinion that the vessel will not meet minimum safety crew requirements needed for the safety of navigation including compliance with the MLC, 2006 it will not be accepted.

3.3 This Administration kindly request to Deputy Registrars not to agree or accept any changes to the Minimum Manning Requirement before consulting Palau International Ship Registry's Seafarers Department.

3.4 Palau International Ship Registry's Seafarers Department will be available to review proposals by the shipowner and managers taking into account: trading area, vessel's size and engine power.

3.5 This Administration kindly request to all shipowners, managers and Deputy Registrars to adhere to the Minimum Safety Manning Requirements table provided in Annex I.

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

4.1 For further information please contact:

Marisabel Arauz Park
Technical Manager
Palau International Ship Registry
16701 Greenspoint Park Drive, Suite 155
Houston, Texas, 77060
P: 281 876 9533
Mobile: 504 460 9487
F: 281 876 9534

