



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 2-015-2

Rev. Aug/2021

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF
MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

SUBJECT: Procedures for Obtaining Multiple Load Line Assignment

References: (a) **LL Convention**, *International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 and Protocol of 1988, as amended in 2003*, Consolidated Edition, 2005
(b) **RMI Maritime Regulations** ([MI-108](#))

PURPOSE

This Notice contains the procedures to obtain approval for a vessel to operate with more than one load line. It also outlines the process by which a Multiple Load Line Assignment Book (Assignment Book) will be issued by the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) and the instructions and conditions for its use.

This Notice supersedes Rev. Jul/2019. Section 2.0 has been amended to eliminate the need for the Administrator’s written approval for an additional load line before plan review and survey. Instead, the Administrator will produce and issue an Assignment Book once provided with the relevant full-term International Load Line Certificates (ILLCs) issued by the Classification Society. Section 2.3 has also been amended to clarify that the Administrator will produce and distribute two (rather than four) copies of the Assignment Book. This aligns with current practice.

APPLICABILITY

This Notice is for RMI-flagged vessels that, to meet charter commitments, need to operate or are operating with more than one freeboard assignment under applicable international conventions.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 Procedure for Obtaining Multiple Load Lines

- 1.1 The Administrator permits more than one **load line freeboard** assignment. However, **only one** load line freeboard mark may be displayed at any time.

- 1.2 To obtain more than one load line, the shipowner or operator must request that the vessel's Classification Society conduct the necessary plan review and perform the required survey.
- 1.3 On successfully completing the plan review and survey, the Classification Society will issue a **full-term** ILLC for each load line freeboard assignment.
- 1.4 The shipowner, operator, or Classification Society must send as a scanned email attachment a copy of each **full-term** ILLC accompanied by a cover letter indicating the request for an Assignment Book to: technical@register-iri.com. If the certificates are available online, then the Classification Society must inform the Administrator by email of their availability.

2.0 Assignment Book

2.1 General

- .1 Once the Administrator has been provided with a full-term ILLC copy and based on information received, an Assignment Book with instructions will be issued to the shipowner or operator and Master.
- .2 An Assignment Book will contain the relevant data on the current freeboard assignments, pages for endorsement by the Master, and instructions for changing from one load line freeboard assignment to another.
- .3 Nothing in the Assignment Book issuing procedures alters the requirements in the LL Convention, Article 14 to carry out Annual or Periodic Surveys of the structure, equipment, arrangements, material, and scantlings. [

2.2 Instructions and Conditions for Use

An Assignment Book must be on board a vessel for the Master's use to verify that the ILLC being placed into service has been authorized by the Administrator. The following instructions and conditions apply:

- .1 Once issued, it is the shipowner or ship operator's responsibility to maintain the Assignment Book, keeping it complete and updated.
- .2 The Master must ensure that the freeboard marks for the intended voyage are shown and all others are obliterated before cargo loading begins.
- .3 The new marks must be verified by the Master who, when satisfied with the alterations and the vessel's condition, will sign the Assignment Book and indicate which Certificate is in use.
- .4 The Master must ensure that the correct ILLC is used for the load line marked. All others must be placed in a sealed envelope in the Master's safe.

- .5 In cases where electronic certificates are issued by the Classification Society, the shipowner or operator must ensure that these are appropriately controlled through procedures in the Safety Management System. (See ISM Code, §11 and IMO Circular [FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev2](#), §4.3).
- .6 ILLCs are the RMI's property. The sealed envelope containing them may only be opened by the Master according to the above instructions.
- .7 It is the Administrator's policy that only one set of SOLAS, *International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea*, or MARPOL, *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships*, certificates may be issued displaying the maximum deadweight for the vessel.
 - (a) Where shipowners prefer certificates to display additional deadweights, the Classification Society is authorized to issue multiple certificates without further authorization from the Administrator.
 - (b) These multiple certificates must be controlled as provided in §2.2.4 when not in use.

2.3 Copies

Two copies of the Assignment Book will be prepared and distributed to the shipowner or operator as follows:

- .1 one "vessel" copy to the operator for placement on board the ship; and
- .2 one "file" copy, with watermark, for the shipowner or operator.

2.4 Validity

An Assignment Book is valid for as long as the ILLCs to which it pertains remain valid.

2.5 Reissuance

Requests for reissuing an Assignment Book must be made to the Administrator when load line freeboard assignments are added, deleted, or changed, and when existing ILLCs are renewed.