



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Guideline

No. 5-34-6

Jul/2025

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

SUBJECT: Yacht Compliance Preparedness

References: (a) **RMI Yacht Code 2021** ([MI-103](#))
(b) **RMI Marine Notice 2-011-53**, *Surveys and Certification for Commercial Yachts, Passenger Yachts, and Yachts Engaged in Trade*
(c) **RMI Marine Notice 2-011-54**, *Requirements for Private Yachts Limited Charter*
(d) **RMI Marine Notice 2-011-55**, *Surveys and Certificates for Private Yachts*

PURPOSE

This Marine Guideline (MG) outlines the procedures and responsibilities of Owners, Captains, Designated Persons Ashore (DPAs), and Designated Persons (DPs), to ensure readiness for compliance verifications (CVs) and inspections conducted by the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the "Administrator").

BACKGROUND

This MG has been published in response to an increasing number of inspections where yachts were found unprepared, or the crew were unaware of applicable requirements. These issues have led to additional inspections and unnecessary costs.

APPLICABILITY

This MG applies to all yachts subject to CVs or inspections as per the applicable RMI Marine Notice (MN) [2-011-53](#), MN [2-011-54](#), and MN [2-011-55](#).

GUIDANCE

1.0 CVs

- 1.1 A CV is conducted by the Administrator¹ to confirm that a yacht complies with all applicable national² and international requirements. A CV is not an in-depth survey but rather an overall assessment to ensure the safety of the yacht, its crew and passengers, and the marine environment in which it operates.
- 1.2 To assist the crew in preparing for a CV or an inspection, the following templates³ may be used as guidance for performing self-assessments:
 - 1.2.1 [MSD252CY](#), *Report of Compliance Verification for Commercial Yachts (CYs) and Yachts Engaged in Trade (YETs) Carrying up to 12 passengers*;
 - 1.2.2 [MSD252PYLC](#), *Report of Compliance Verification for Private Yachts Limited Charter (PYLC)*; and
 - 1.2.3 [MSD252PAXY](#), *Report of Inspection Passenger Yacht and YET Carrying Up to 36 passengers*.

2.0 Pre-registration inspections

- 2.1 Pre-registration inspections are conducted by the Administrator on Private yachts:
 - 2.1.1 over 20 years of age; and/or
 - 2.1.2 not in a Class; and/or
 - 2.1.3 that require verification of their eligibility for registration, where deemed necessary by the Administrator.
- 2.2 To assist in preparing for a pre-registration inspection, form [MSD 252PYPREREG](#), *Verification Report of Private Yacht (≥ 24 meters) Pre-Registration Inspection* may be used.

¹ Refer to MN [2-011-53](#), §2.0.

² Refer to MN [2-011-53](#), §3.1.1.

³ These templates are designed to assist the crew in identifying and addressing potential non-conformities before the inspection. They do not provide a comprehensive or detailed list of all applicable requirements. Inspectors may assess compliance with additional national or international requirements that are not explicitly outlined in the templates.

3.0 Readiness for inspection

- 3.1 When scheduling a CV or a pre-registration inspection, the owner or their representatives are solely responsible for ensuring that the yacht is ready for inspection.
- 3.2 Failure to present the yacht in a ready state may result in:
 - 3.2.1 non-issuance of the compliance certificate or endorsement, and
 - 3.2.2 additional attendance requirements and associated costs.
- 3.3 Significant deficiencies may require corrective actions and could result in registration delays or denial.

4.0 Voluntary Pre-coding Assessments

- 4.1 Prior to an initial CV, a yacht may undergo a voluntary pre-coding assessment by an independent third party to evaluate its readiness and assist in certification preparation. However, these assessments are not regulated or arranged by the Administrator and do not replace the initial CV or inspection.
- 4.2 For a pre-coding assessment, it is recommended to utilize one of the Appointed Representatives (ARs) listed in MG [2-11-15](#).
- 4.3 The report of a pre-coding assessment need not to be shared with the Administrator. However, when Class-A deficiencies are found during a pre-coding assessment on a yacht already registered with the RMI, the attending inspector is required to inform the Administrator. These Class-A deficiencies may lead to imposing of controlled action to safeguard the safety of the yacht, persons on board and environment.
- 4.4 The Administrator maintains a policy that if a RMI Yacht Inspector or AR is engaged in the pre-coding assessment, the same individual must not perform the initial CV.