



**REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**
MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 1-000-3

Rev. Aug/2025

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

SUBJECT: Requirements on Carriage of Publications on Board

References: (a) **IMO Circular [MSC-MEPC.2/Circ.2](#)**, *IMO requirements on carriage of publications on board ships*, issued 1 June 2006
(b) **RMI Marine Notice [7-041-6](#)**, *Nautical Chart and Publication Carriage and Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) Requirements*
(c) **RMI Marine Notice [4-033-2](#)**, *Required Documents and Publications for Ship Radio Stations*
(d) **RMI Marine Guideline [7-41-1](#)**, *Safety of Navigation*

PURPOSE

This Marine Notice (MN) establishes the requirements for carriage of publications on board Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)-flagged vessels. Publications that must be carried are listed in the Appendix.

This MN supersedes Rev. Nov/2020. The Appendix was updated to include the latest editions of the publications required to be carried. Additionally, the Applicability section was amended to exclude yachts.

APPLICABILITY

This MN applies to all RMI-flagged vessels, except yachts. Please refer to the Yacht Code 2021 ([MI-103](#)) for publications relevant to yachts.

BACKGROUND

International Maritime Organization (IMO) instruments deal with many operational aspects, such as navigational responsibilities, safety related training/drills on board, safe cargo handling, oil spill prevention, collision avoidance activities, and watchkeeping standards. Examples of these include:

- International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 (SOLAS)
- International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code
- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973 (MARPOL)

- International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 (LL)
- Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972 (COLREG)
- International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW)

Although not expressly required under the relevant instrument to be carried on board, the RMI Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) mandates their carriage to enhance implementation and improve the crew’s knowledge of them.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 Minimum Requirements for Publications to be Carried on Board

- 1.1 The publications listed in Appendix, as applicable to the vessel, must be carried on board. This includes publications expressly required to be carried on board per IMO Circular [MSC-MEPC.2/Circ.2](#) and other international instruments, as well as those required to be carried on board by the Administrator pursuant to RMI requirements.
- 1.2 Electronic publications may be carried in lieu of hard copies except those for emergency use as provided in §3.0, below. They must be issued by the IMO, the Administrator, or a body authorized by the Administrator to ensure correctness of their contents and safeguard against illegal copying.
- 1.3 All publications on board, regardless of format, must be the latest editions or duly corrected and up to date. In cases where copies of RMI regulations incorporating the provisions of the required instruments are provided on board, publications of such instruments need not be carried on board. A list of [current IMO publications](#) is available on their website.
- 1.4 A nonconformity must be filed by International Safety Management (ISM) Code auditors against ships not carrying the publications in accordance with National requirements and their Safety Management System (SMS). No deficiency should be filed by Port State Control Officers against ships not carrying the additional Nationally required publications.

2.0 Electronic Nautical Publications

Electronic nautical publications, in accordance with MN [7-041-6](#), must be issued officially by or on the authority of a government-authorized hydrographic office or other relevant governmental institutions.

3.0 Publications Required as a Hard Copy

- 3.1 Publications needed for emergency use, such as the International Code of Signals and the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual must always be available in hard copy.
- 3.2 When electronic publications with backups are carried, those portions needed for navigation while underway (tides and current tables, light list, etc.) must be printed and included with the voyage plan, unless the backup is an independent computer system with its own emergency power source. See MN [7-041-6](#) for Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) and nautical publications backup requirements.

4.0 Publications Distributors

- 4.1 An official global list of [Distributors of IMO Publications](#) is available on the IMO website. Distributors maintain a permanent stock of all IMO publications.
- 4.2 International Telecommunication Union (ITU) publications not contained in this MN must be carried aboard RMI-flagged vessels to comply with the carriage requirements addressed in MN [4-033-2](#), *Required Documents and Publications for Ship Radio Stations*. The ITU publications bookshop and a list of official ITU Resellers are available on the [ITU website](#).

APPENDIX

Minimum Requirements for Publications to be Carried on Board

(All publications and nautical charts must be kept up to date in accordance with §1.3 of this MN)

Publication	Required by:	Applicability ¹	Remarks
SOLAS (Consolidated Edition, 2024)	RMI Administrator	All Ships	
MARPOL (Consolidated Edition, 2022)	RMI Administrator	All Ships	
Load Lines Convention 1966 (2021 Edition)	RMI Administrator	All Ships	
COLREG (Consolidated Edition 2003)	RMI Administrator	All Ships	
STCW including 2010 Manila amendments (2017 Edition)	RMI Administrator	All Ships	
MLC 2006	MLC, Standard A5.1.1.2	All Ships	
IBC Code (2020 Edition)	IBC, paragraph 16.2.1	Chemical Tankers	Built after 1 July 1986
BCH Code (2008 Edition)	BCH, paragraph 5.2.1	Chemical Tankers	Built before 1 July 1986
IGC Code (1993 Edition)	IGC, paragraph 18.1.3	Gas Carriers	Keel laid 1 July 1998 through 30 June 2016
IGC Code (2016 Edition)	IGC, paragraph 18.1.2	Gas Carriers	Keel laid on or after 1 July 2016
IGF Code (2016 Edition)	IGF, paragraph 18.2.1	Gas-fuelled Ships	Built on or after 1 January 2017

¹ Provides a general indication. Refer to the Conventions or Codes for exact application requirements.

Publication	Required by:	Applicability ¹	Remarks
IMDG Code (2024 Edition) and IMDG Code Supplement (2024 Edition)	SOLAS VII	All Ships	Carrying Dangerous Goods in Package Form or Bulk
IMSBC Code (2022 Edition)	SOLAS VI/1.1	All Ships	Carrying Solid Bulk Cargoes
Code of Safe Practices for Timber Deck Cargoes, 2011 (2012 Edition)	RMI Administrator	Cargo Ships (as applicable)	
International Code of Signals (2005 Edition)	SOLAS V/21.1	All Ships	See §3.1 of this MN
IAMSAR Manual Volume III (2022 Edition)	SOLAS V/21.2	All Ships	See §3.1 of this MN
ICS International Safety Guide for Oil Tankers and Terminals (ISGOTT) (6 th Edition)	RMI Administrator	Oil Tankers	
ICS Tanker Safety Guide (Chemicals) (3 rd Edition)	RMI Administrator	Chemical Tankers	
ICS Tanker Safety Guide (Liquefied Gas) (4 th Edition)	RMI Administrator	LNGs	
Nautical Charts & Publications	SOLAS V/19.2.1 & V/27	All Ships	
Publications required by ISM Code	ISM Code, paragraphs 1.2.3 and 11.3	All Ships	Required publications to be carried are those specifically mentioned by the ship's SMS manual and RMI Maritime Regulations (MI-108)