



**REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 7-041-5

Apr/2025

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

SUBJECT: Electronic Record Books and Logbook Systems

- References:**
- (a) **SOLAS**, *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea*, Consolidated Edition 2024
 - (b) **MARPOL**, *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships*, Consolidated Edition 2022
 - (c) **IMO Publication**, *Ballast Water Management Convention and BWMS Code with Guidelines for Implementation*, 2018 Edition.
 - (d) **NOx Technical Code**, *Code on Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines*
 - (e) **IMO Assembly Resolution A.1185(33)**, *Procedures for Port State Control*, 2023, adopted on 6 December 2023
 - (f) **IMO Resolution MEPC.312(74)**, *Guidelines for the Use of Electronic Record Books under MARPOL*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (g) **IMO Resolution MEPC.314(74)**, *Amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, and V (Electronic Record Books)*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (h) **IMO Resolution MEPC.316(74)**, *Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI Electronic Books and EEDI regulations for Ice-strengthened Ships*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (i) **IMO Resolution MEPC.317(74)**, *Amendments to the NOx Technical Code 2008 (Electronic Record Books and Certification Requirements for SCR systems)*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (j) **IMO Resolution MEPC.372(80)**, *Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under the BWM Convention*, adopted 7 July 2023
 - (k) **IMO Resolution MEPC.383(81)**, *Amendments to Regulations A-1 and B-2*, adopted 22 March 2024
 - (l) **RMI Maritime Regulations (MI-108)**

PURPOSE

This Marine Notice (MN) establishes the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator's (the "Administrator's") requirements for using Electronic Record Books (ERBs) and other logbook systems to electronically record required operations. It implements the latest requirements for the approval and use of ERBs under the *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships* (MARPOL), the *Code on Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines* (NOx Technical Code 2008), and the *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments* (BWM Convention).

This MN supersedes Rev. May/2024. It has been amended to implement the Administrator's requirements for the approval and use of Ballast Water Management (BWM) ERBs.

APPLICABILITY

These requirements apply to all RMI-flagged vessels which use MARPOL ERBs, BWM ERBs, or other logbook systems to electronically record required operations.

BACKGROUND

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted amendments to MARPOL and the NOx Technical Code allowing ERBs to be used since 1 October 2020 instead of hard copy record books.¹ Associated guidelines for the use of MARPOL ERBs were also adopted.²

IMO Resolution [MEPC.383\(81\)](#) amends the BWM Convention and will enter into force on 1 October 2025. Any BWM ERB must carry a declaration in accordance with IMO Resolution [MEPC.372\(80\)](#), *Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under the BWM Convention*.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 General

- 1.1 ERBs and electronic logbooks are permitted to be used under the RMI [Maritime Regulations](#), §7.41.2(g). They must be approved by the Administrator **only** where required by international convention. See §2.0, below.
- 1.2 If switching over to ERBs or other electronic logbooks, vessels must continue to preserve their existing hard copy record books in accordance with the provisions of the applicable governing international convention(s) or in the absence of any such provisions, for a minimum of three years after the last entry is made therein. (see RMI [Maritime Regulations](#), §7.41.2(h), and Marine Guideline (MG) [2-13-3](#) for additional information).

¹ IMO Resolutions [MEPC.314\(74\)](#), [MEPC.316\(74\)](#), and [MEPC.317\(74\)](#).

² IMO Resolution [MEPC.312\(74\)](#).

- 1.3 ERBs and electronic logbooks must take into consideration all relevant international standards.

2.0 ERBs

- 2.1 ERBs may be used on board to meet the following record book and recording requirements:

- 2.1.1 Oil Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex I, regulations 17.1 and 36.1);
- 2.1.2 Cargo Record Book (MARPOL Annex II, regulation 15.1);
- 2.1.3 Garbage Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex V, regulation 10.3);
- 2.1.4 Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS) Record Book (MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 12.6). Existing electronic recording systems for rechargeable systems containing ODS can only be considered an ERB if the system is approved by the Administrator. This must occur before the first International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) renewal survey carried out on or after 1 October 2020, but not later than 1 October 2025;
- 2.1.5 Recording of the tier and on or off status of marine diesel engines (MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 13.5.3);
- 2.1.6 Record of Fuel Oil Changeover (MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 14.6);
- 2.1.7 Record Book of Engine Parameters (NO_x Technical Code, paragraph 6.2.2.7); and
- 2.1.8 Ballast Water Record Book (BWM Convention, regulation B-2).

2.2 Administrator-Approved Software Providers

ERB approval will be assessed against IMO Resolution [MEPC.312\(74\)](#) or IMO Resolution [MEPC.372\(80\)](#), as appropriate.

- 2.2.1 Click [here](#) for a list of Administrator-approved ERB Providers.

- 2.2.2 To seek approval for an ERB, email: eRecordBooks@register-iri.com.

2.3 Onboard Declaration

- 2.3.1 Every vessel with an approved ERB installed must carry a *Declaration of Electronic Record Book(s)*. This declaration is not necessary while an ERB is undergoing testing, only once it has been approved.
- 2.3.2 To apply for a declaration, complete an application in the RMI ERB [portal](#).
- 2.3.3 The Administrator will review the application, and the relevant declaration will be issued as appropriate.

3.0 Documentation for Port State Control (PSC)

- 3.1 Using ERBs or other logbook systems to electronically record required operations does not reduce shipowners' existing duties to accurately record, maintain, and produce records during an inspection per international requirements.
- 3.2 The ERB must have the capability to produce a hard copy of verified records for the Master to certify as a true copy on request from relevant authorities.
- 3.3 The following documentation must be carried on board and be presented on request during a PSC boarding or other authorized vessel inspection:
 - 3.3.1 The Administrator's *Declaration of Electronic Record Book(s)* as relevant.
 - 3.3.2 For systems other than ERBs, a declaration from the supplier's installation contractor, that the system is installed according to current regulations, is performance tested, and found to be in full functioning order.
 - 3.3.3 If a declaration or written authorization cannot be provided, a hard copy record book must be presented for examination. Refer to IMO Resolution [A.1185\(33\)](#), *Procedures for Port State Control, 2023*.
 - 3.3.4 Where vessels must maintain a hard copy logbook in bound volumes, the Administration will accept a hard copy printout in accordance with the RMI [Maritime Regulations](#), §7.41.2(g).
 - 3.3.5 Evidence that the routines for safekeeping ERB, or other electronic logbook systems under the RMI [Maritime Regulations](#), §7.41.2(g) are implemented in the ship's International Safety Management System.

4.0 Questions

Contact eRecordBooks@register-iri.com with any questions about ERBs, including any issues encountered in using the web [portal](#).