



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Guideline

No. 1-11-2

Mar/2024

TO: COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE YACHT MASTERS, OWNERS, YACHT MANAGERS, AGENTS, CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES AND APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

SUBJECT: Yacht Engaged in Trade

Reference:

- (a) [RMI Maritime Act 1990](#)
- (b) [RMI Maritime Regulations](#) (MI-108)
- (c) [RMI Yacht Code 2021](#) (MI-103)
- (d) [RMI Marine Notice 2-011-53](#), *Conducting Surveys and Issuance of International Convention and National Certificates for Commercial Yachts, Passenger Yachts, and Yachts Engaged in Trade*

PURPOSE

This Marine Guideline (MG) explains the applicable requirements and procedures, including appropriate certification, for a Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)-flagged private yacht to charter for up to 84 days per calendar year. This Yacht Engaged in Trade (YET) status is currently limited to European Union (EU) waters and charters starting in France and Monaco. However, it may also apply in other countries, including those outside the EU, where authorized by local authorities.

This revision supersedes Rev Jan/2021.

APPLICABILITY

RMI-flagged private-registered yachts that seek to charter as a YET.

DEFINITIONS

Unless specified otherwise in this Guideline, this document uses terminology defined in the [RMI Maritime Regulations](#) and the [RMI Yacht Code 2021 \(Yacht Code\)](#).

Customs Broker means a person who is licensed by the local customs authorities to act as a professional-agent for an Importer/Exporter, prepares and submits all documents for clearing goods through customs, and is paid customs-brokerage.

Importer/Exporter means an entity that may represent the yacht for customs and, where applicable, for fiscal purposes. A yacht owner may not serve as an Importer/Exporter.

GUIDELINES

1.0 Criteria for YET Qualification

- 1.1 The yacht must be 24 m or more in length.
- 1.2 The yacht must have an RMI Private Yacht Certificate of Registry (COR).
- 1.3 The yacht must comply with the requirements of Chapters I (General) and V (YETs) of the [Yacht Code](#) and all other applicable national and international requirements.
- 1.4 In addition to the requirement of §1.3 above, YETs must also comply with the Yacht Code:
 - .1 Chapter II for carrying up to 12 passengers onboard; or
 - .2 Chapter III for carrying up to 36 passengers onboard.
- 1.5 The yacht must maintain a YET Compliance Certificate which is subject to annual endorsements. (See Marine Notice [2-011-53](#)).

2.0 Procedure

- 2.1 The registered owner of the yacht must submit [MI-127YET](#), *Declaration of Private Use with the Intent to Request a Temporary Certificate of Registry for a Yacht Engaged in Trade* to the RMI Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”).
- 2.2 The yacht must undergo and successfully complete a Compliance Verification in accordance with [Maritime Regulations](#).
- 2.3 Customs and fiscal formalities must be addressed by the Importer/Exporter.
 - .1 For the EU, the yacht must either:
 - a. be in possession of Valued Added Tax (VAT) paid certificate; or
 - b. enter the EU under Temporary Admission in accordance with EU customs regulations, which allows the yacht to enter EU waters for up to 18 months. This option is available only to yachts of non-EU ownership and ultimately owned by a non-EU resident. A Customs Broker will be required to carry out the appropriate customs formalities on behalf of an Importer/Exporter.
 - .2 For all other countries, the yacht must obtain authorization from the local authorities where the charter is to take place.

- 2.4 For all charters the yacht owner, yacht manager, or their agents and representatives, must provide the Administrator with a copy of the charter contract showing the charter's commencement and end dates.
- 2.5 The Administrator will issue a Temporary Certificate of Registry for Yacht Engaged in Trade (Temporary COR YET) reflecting the dates outlined on the charter contract provided the criteria in §1.0 are met and the procedures outlined in §2.1 - §2.4, above, are successfully completed.

3.0 Conditions for Maintaining YET Eligibility

A YET must:

- 3.1 not be used by the beneficial owner during the validity period of the Temporary COR YET;
- 3.2 maintain a valid YET Compliance Certificate (YETCC) by complying at all times with the [Yacht Code](#) and all other national and international requirements, as applicable to a YET, irrespective of whether or not it is engaged in trade;
- 3.3 undergo an Annual Compliance Verification to verify that the qualifications and certification of the crew and the yacht's actual condition and the certificates issued to it are in compliance with the requirements of the Yacht Code and any international conventions, as applicable;
- 3.4 maintain on board the yacht the original Acknowledgement from the Master in which they acknowledged their understanding of the *Declaration of Private Use with Intent to Request a Temporary Certificate of Registry for a Yacht Engaged in Trade*; and
- 3.5 carry on board the Temporary COR YET issued by the Administrator for the entire duration of the charter. While operating under the Temporary COR YET, all other certificates of registry are invalid for the time stated on this document.

4.0 PORT STATE CONTROL (PSC)

Private yachts holding a YETCC and operating under a Temporary COR YET must be aware the yacht is considered by EU PSC authorities to be a commercial yacht or passenger ship for the purposes of compliance and inspection within the Paris Memorandum of Understanding.

5.0 QUESTIONS

Contact Yachts@register-iri.com for questions about YETs.