



REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Guideline

No. 2-11-18

May/2024

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

SUBJECT: Reference List to Aid in International Safety Management Code Compliance

Reference: (a) RMI Marine Notice [2-011-13](#), *International Safety Management (ISM) Code*

PURPOSE

This Marine Guideline provides a reference list to assist in International Safety Management (ISM) Code compliance. It should be used in conjunction with the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator's (the "Administrator") Marine Notice (MN) [2-011-13](#).

This version supersedes Oct/2023. Section 6.0 has been amended to reference the latest issuance of the port State control procedures, IMO Assembly Resolution [A.1185\(33\)](#), *Procedures for Port State Control, 2023*, adopted 6 December 2023.

APPLICABILITY

This Guideline should be referred to by all Companies and RMI-flagged vessels to which the ISM Code applies and those that voluntarily comply with it.

GUIDANCE

There are many regulations and guidelines, internationally adopted and industry-initiated, that a Company should consider when developing, managing, and implementing an ISM Safety Management System (SMS). A non-exhaustive list of these instruments and publications follows in §1.0.

1.0 RMI Law, Regulations, Rules, and Standards

The RMI Maritime Act 1990 (the "[Maritime Act](#)") establishes the foundation for the RMI Maritime Regulations (the "[Maritime Regulations](#)"). Compliance with RMI laws, regulations, codes, rules, and standards is mandatory. Rules and standards that are particularly important for ISM compliance include:

MI-103	<i>Yacht Code</i>
MI-118	<i>Requirements for Seafarer Certification</i>
MI-260	<i>Rules for Marine Investigations</i>
MI-293	<i>Mobile Offshore Unit Standards</i>

2.0 RMI Marine Notices

Compliance with RMI Marine Notices is mandatory as they are an extension of the Maritime Regulations. Marine Notices which are particularly relevant to ISM compliance are listed below. Many of these are already referred to in MN [2-011-13](#).

Notice	Title
MN 2-011-14	<i>Maintenance and Inspection of Fire Protection Systems and Appliances</i>
MN 2-011-16	<i>International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code</i>
MN 2-011-33	<i>Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 Inspection and Certification Program</i>
MN 2-011-37	<i>Lifesaving Appliances and Systems</i>
MN 2-011-39	<i>Piracy, Armed Robbery, and the Use of Armed Security</i>
MN 2-011-47	<i>Plans and Procedures to Recover Persons from the Water</i>
MN 2-013-2	<i>MARPOL Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements</i>
MN 2-013-4	<i>Approval for Shipboard Marine Pollution Emergency Plans for Oil and/or Noxious Liquid Substances</i>
MN 2-013-12	<i>MARPOL Annex VI, Chapter 4 – Regulations on the Carbon Intensity of International Shipping</i>
MN 2-014-1	<i>Ballast Water Management</i>
MN 5-034-1	<i>Safety Inspection Program</i>
MN 5-034-3	<i>Operational Safety Checklist for SOLAS 74/78 Requirements</i>
MN 7-038-2	<i>Minimum Safe Manning Requirements for Vessels</i>
MN 7-038-4	<i>Principles of Watchkeeping</i>
MN 7-041-1	<i>Entering Enclosed Spaces – Safety Precautions</i>
MN 7-041-5	<i>Electronic Record Books and Logbook Systems</i>
MN 7-041-6	<i>Nautical Chart and Publication Carriage and Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) Requirements</i>
MN 7-042-1	<i>Medical Care on Board Ship and Ashore: Medicine Chest, Recordkeeping, Responsibilities and Training for Medical Care</i>
MN 7-044-1	<i>Accommodations, Recreational Facilities, Food, Catering, and Water</i>
MN 7-045-1	<i>Demonstrating Compliance of Seafarer Recruitment and Placement Services</i>
MN 7-046-1	<i>Articles of Agreement between the Master and Seafarers in the Merchant Service of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (Shipping Articles)</i>
MN 7-049-1	<i>Shipboard Occupational Health and Safety, including Hazardous Work Issues for Seafarers Under 18 Years Old</i>
MN 7-051-1	<i>Payment of Wages – Account</i>
MN 7-051-2	<i>Minimum Hours of Rest</i>
MN 7-052-1	<i>Repatriation</i>
MN 7-053-1	<i>On Board Complaint Procedures</i>

3.0 RMI Marine Guidelines

Although implementing the guidance contained in an RMI Marine Guideline is not mandatory, it is highly recommended and should be considered in complying with the requirements. RMI Guidelines that are particularly relevant are as follows.

Guideline	Title
MG 2-11-16	<i>Maritime Cyber Risk Management</i>
MG 2-13-3	<i>Oil Record Book Guidelines</i>
MG 2-14-1	<i>Ballast Water Management</i>
MG 5-34-2	<i>Guidelines for Undergoing a Port State Control Inspection</i>
MG 6-36-1	<i>Guidelines on the Control of Ships in an Emergency</i>
MG 6-36-2	<i>Notification and Reporting of Marine Casualties, Marine Incidents, Occurrences and Offenses</i>
MG 7-41-5	<i>Stowaways: Prevention of Unauthorized Access and Case Resolution</i>
MG 7-44-1	<i>Food Handling, Storage and Preparation</i>
MG 7-45-1	<i>Guidance on Seafarer Employment Agreements</i>
MG 7-47-1	<i>Guidance on Medical Exams and Certificates for Seafarers</i>

The following IMO and ILO Conventions, to which the RMI is a Party, are particularly significant for ISM compliance.

Convention	Title
BWM 2004	<i>International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004</i>
COLREG 72	<i>Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972, as Amended</i>
CSC 1972	<i>International Convention for Safe Containers, 1972</i>
LL 1966 & LL Protocol 1988	<i>International Convention on Load Lines, 1966 and Protocol of 1988, relating to the International Convention on Load Lines, 1966</i>
MARPOL	<i>Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973</i>
MLC, 2006	<i>Maritime Labour Convention, 2006</i>
SOLAS	<i>International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as Amended</i>
STCW Convention & STCW Code	<i>International Convention on Standards, Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, including the 2010 Manila amendments</i>

5.0 Codes under SOLAS

These codes are mandatory, where applicable, and must be addressed.

Code	Title
CSS Code	<i>Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing</i>
IBC Code	<i>International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk</i>
IGF Code	<i>International Code of Safety for Ships Using Gases or Other Low-Flashpoint Fuels</i>
IMDG Code	<i>International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code</i>
IMSBC Code	<i>International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code</i>
ISPS Code	<i>International Ship and Port Facility Security Code, (Part A)</i>
MODU Code	<i>Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (1979, 1989, and 2009 MODU Codes)</i>
Polar Code	<i>International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters</i>
SPS Code	<i>Code of Safety for Special Purpose Ships</i>

6.0 IMO Resolutions and Circulars

Assembly Resolutions	
A.443(XI)	<i>Decisions of the Shipmaster with regard to Maritime Safety and Marine Environment Protection, 15 November 1979</i>
A.851(20)	<i>General Principles for Ship Reporting Systems and Ship Reporting Requirements, Including Guidelines for Reporting Incidents involving Dangerous Goods, Harmful Substances and/or Marine Pollutants, 27 November 1997, as amended by MEPC.138(53), 22 July 2005</i>
A.1185(33)	<i>Procedures for Port State Control, 2023, 6 December 2023</i>
Marine Environment Protection Committee Resolutions	
MEPC.346(78)	<i>2022 Guidelines for the development of a Ship Energy Efficiency Management Plan (SEEMP), 10 June 2022</i>
Maritime Safety Committee Circulars	
MSC.1/Circ.443	<i>Measures to Prevent Unlawful Acts Against Passengers and Crews on Board Ships, 26 September 1986</i>
MSC.1/Circ.1045	<i>Guidelines for Maintenance and Monitoring of On-Board Materials Containing Asbestos, 28 May 2002</i>
MSC.1/Circ.1352/Rev.1	<i>Amendments to the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing (CSS Code), 15 December 2014</i>
MSC.1/Circ.1353/Rev.2	<i>Revised Guidelines for the Preparation of the Cargo Securing Manual, 7 December 2020</i>

Maritime Safety Committee Circulars

[MSC.1/Circ.1354](#)

Amendments to the Elements to be Taken into Account when Considering the Safe Stowage and Securing of Cargo Units and Vehicles in Ships (resolution A.533(13)), 30 June 2010

[MSC.1/Circ.1426/Rev.1](#)

Unified Interpretation of SOLAS Regulation II-1/3-5, 24 November 2016

[MSC.1/Circ.1660](#)

Guidance on the Training on and Operation of Emergency Personal Radio Devices in Multiple Casualty Situations, 28 November 2022

Joint Maritime Safety Committee and Marine Environment Protection Committee Circulars

[MSC-MEPC.7/Circ.6](#)

Guidance on the Qualifications, Training and Experience Necessary for Undertaking the Role of the Designated Person Under the Provisions of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code, 19 October 2007

[MSC-MEPC.7/Circ.7](#)

Guidance on Near-Miss Reporting, 10 October 2008

Joint Maritime Safety Committee and Marine Environment Protection Committee Circulars

[MSC-MEPC.7/Circ.8](#)

Revised Guidelines for the Operational Implementation of the International Safety Management (ISM) Code by Companies, 28 June 2013

[MSC/Circ.762-MEPC/Circ.312](#)

Implementation of the ISM Code: Guidance to Companies Operating Multi-Flagged Fleets and Supplemental Guidelines to Administrations, 11 July 1996

[MSC/Circ.1059-MEPC/Circ.401](#)

Procedures Concerning Observed ISM Code Major Non-Conformities, 16 December 2002

7.0 Best Practice Industry Guidelines

Depending on the ship type and their relevance, the following best practice guidelines and tools may be helpful in developing, implementing, and improving the SMS.

To assist in ISM compliance, the Administrator highly recommends using:

BIMCO

Guidelines on Ship and Voyage Specific Risk Assessment (SVSRA)

IMO

Revised Industry Counter Piracy Guidance

International Association of Drilling Contractors

Health, Safety and Environmental Case Guidelines for Mobile Offshore Drilling Units 2009

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)

Assessment and Development of Safety Management Systems

Bridge Procedures Guide

Guide to Helicopter/Ship Operations

Guidelines for the Preparation of Garbage Management Plans

Maritime Security: Guidance for the Ship Operator on the IMO International Ship and Port Facilities Security (ISPS) Code

Model Ship Security Plan

Ship/Shore Safety Checklist for Bulk Carriers

Shipping and the Environment - A Code of Practice

Tanker Safety Guide (Chemicals)

Tanker Safety Guide (Liquefied Gas)

ICS and International Shipping Federation (ISF) (a joint publication)

Guidelines on the Application of the IMO International Safety Management (ISM) Code
(This publication has essential guidance on risk management, safety culture, and environmental management.)

ISF

Guidelines on Good Employment Practice (ISF)

ILO Maritime Labour Convention 2006: A Guide for the Shipping Industry

Marlins English Language Test for Seafarers

On Board Training Record Book for Deck Ratings

On Board Training Record Book for Engine Ratings

On Board Training Record Book for Engineer Cadets

On Board Training Record Books for Deck Cadets

Personal Training and Service Record Book

The STCW Convention: Incorporating STCW Checklists

Watchkeeper (IMO/ILO work hour record program) (ISF)

Joint Publications

Industry Non-Governmental Organizations	<i>Best Management Practices to Deter Piracy and Enhance Maritime Security in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Indian Ocean and Arabian Sea (BMP5)</i>
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ICS/OCIMF/IAPH	<i>International Safety Guide for Oil Tankers and Terminals</i>
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ICS/OCIMF	<i>Peril at Sea and Salvage - A Guide for Masters</i>
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ICS/ISF	<i>Pirates and Armed Robbers - Guidelines on Prevention for Masters and Ship Security Officers</i>
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Joint Publications	
ICS/OCIMF	<i>Prevention of Oil Spillages through Cargo Pumphroom Sea Valves</i>
ICS/World Shipping Council	<i>Safe Transport of Containers by Sea - Guidelines on Best Practices</i>
OCIMF/CDI//ICS/SIGGTO	<i>Ship-to-Ship Transfer Guide for Petroleum, Chemicals, and Liquefied Gases</i>
BIMCO, Intercargo, ICS, ISF, Intertanko, OCIMF	<i>Shipping Industry Guidance on the Use of Oily Water Separators ensuring Compliance with MARPOL</i>
Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF)	
International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)	

8.0 The International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

ISO 31000:2018 addresses the entire management system that supports the design, implementation, maintenance, and improvement of risk management processes.