



**REPUBLIC OF
THE MARSHALL ISLANDS**

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 2-011-53

Jan/2021

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

**SUBJECT: Conducting Surveys and Issuing International Convention and National
Certificates for Commercial Yachts, Passenger Yachts, and Yachts Engaged
in Trade**

References: (a) RMI Yacht Code ([MI-103](#))
(b) RMI Maritime Act 1990 ([MI-107](#))
(c) RMI Maritime Regulations ([MI-108](#))
(d) RMI Marine Notice [2-011-43](#), *Registration of Tenders and Issuance of
Tender Statements of Compliance*
(e) RMI Marine Guideline [2-11-15](#), *Organizations Acting on Behalf of the
Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator*

PURPOSE

This Notice outlines the requirements for conducting surveys and issuing international convention and national certificates by or on behalf of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”).

It supersedes the May/2019 version. Section 3.0 has been amended to address Yachts Engaged in Trade (YETs).

APPLICABILITY

This Notice applies to all commercial yachts, passenger yachts (PAXYs), and YETs, regardless of size.

DEFINITIONS

This Notice uses terminology defined in the RMI Maritime Regulations (MI-108), §1.03, and the RMI Yacht Code (MI-103), Chapter I, §3.0.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 International Convention Statutory Certificates and Voluntary Statements of Compliance

1.1 Classed Yachts

1.1.1 The following yachts must maintain class with a Classification Society:

- .1 Commercial yachts 500 gross tons (GT) or more;
- .2 YETs 500 GT or more; and
- .3 PAXYs.

1.1.2 International convention statutory certificates for classed yachts must be issued by the yacht's Classification Society. However, a Class or an Appointed Representative (AR) may carry out and issue the relevant certification for audits, surveys, and inspections for:

- .1 International Safety Management (ISM) Code;
- .2 International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code; and
- .3 Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006).

1.2 Unclassed Commercial Yachts and YETs of less than 500 GT

1.2.1 All unclassified commercial yachts and YETs less than 500 GT, must demonstrate that their hull and machinery were built to a known high standard. This is typically accomplished by building the yacht to Rules of Class and maintaining a Class certificate.

1.2.2 All unclassified commercial yachts and YETs less than 500 GT must have their applicable international convention statutory surveys and certification carried out by Class or an AR.

2.0 Commercial Yacht and YET Flag State Compliance

2.1 General

2.1.1 All commercial yachts and YETs, regardless of GT, must be certified to be in compliance with [MI-103](#).

2.1.2 The initial and renewal Compliance Verification and issuance of a short-term CYCC or YETCC (valid up to five months) must be carried out by an AR before a commercial yacht or YET Certificate of Registry (COR) will be issued by the Administrator.

- 2.1.3 For commercial yachts that have not been issued a SOLAS Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate, the short-term CYCC or YETCC must be accompanied by a Yacht Record of Safety Equipment (MI-289 (Form E)), issued by the AR, to confirm the safety equipment onboard.
- 2.1.4 A short-term CYCC or YETCC must be forwarded by the AR to the Administrator for review. Once the yacht has satisfied the [MI-103](#) requirements, a full-term Certificate of Compliance will be issued by the Administrator. The full-term Certificate of Compliance is valid for five years, but its validity is subject to an annual Compliance Verification within the three-month period before or after the anniversary date.
- 2.1.5 For all commercial yachts and YETs, regardless of GT, the annual Compliance Verification must be carried out by an AR.
- 2.1.6 Commercial yachts or YETs carrying a tender must comply with §5.0 of this Notice.
- 2.2 Re-Registration of Commercial Yachts and YETs
- 2.2.1 Upon the re-registration of a commercial yacht or YET, where the new owner wishes to maintain the same (mandatory or voluntary) compliance, the previously issued CYCC or YETCC may be carried forward. To carry the compliance forward, the yacht must be in good standing with the required compliance level, have valid statutory certificates, and the annual Compliance Verification must be within the annual window (See §4.2 below).
- 2.2.2 If re-registration occurs after the anniversary date and the Compliance Verification has not yet occurred, it must be completed within 30 days of re-registration, but not later than the end of the annual window.
- 2.2.3 Within their annual renewal window, yachts must complete the renewal Compliance Verification prior to re-registration.
- 2.2.4 Yachts must close all outstanding deficiencies with their AR prior to re-registration if they have been issued a short-term CYCC or YETCC or have active deficiencies from the last Compliance Verification.
- 2.2.5 Inspections, surveys, and audits relating the international convention statutory certificates must be carried out as required by the respective conventions.
- 2.2.6 Yachts carrying a CYCC or YETCC wishing to re-register as a private yacht may do so without a pre-registration inspection, provided the international convention statutory certificates are valid.

3.0 PAXY and YET Flag State Compliance

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 PAXYs and YETs, regardless of GT, must be certified to comply with the [MI-103](#).
- 3.1.2 For all PAXYs and YETs, the initial and renewal Compliance Verification and issuance of a short-term PAXYCC or YETCC (valid up to five months) must be carried out by an AR before a PAXY or YET Certificate of Registry will be issued by the Administrator.
- 3.1.3 A short-term PAXYCC or YETCC must be forwarded by the AR to the Administrator for review. Once the PAXY has satisfied MI-103 requirements, a full-term PAXYCC or YETCC will be issued by the Administrator.
- 3.1.4 The full-term PAXYCC or YETCC is valid for five years, but its validity is subject to an annual Compliance Verification within the three-month period before or after the anniversary date.
- 3.1.5 For all PAXYs and YETs, the annual Compliance Verification must be carried out by an AR.
- 3.1.6 PAXYs and YETs that carry a tender must comply with §6.0 of this Notice.

3.2 PAXY and YET Re-registration

- 3.2.1 Upon the re-registration of a PAXY or YET, where the new owner wishes to maintain the same (mandatory or voluntary) compliance, the previously issued PAXYCC or YETCC may be carried forward. To carry the compliance forward, the yacht must be in good standing with the required compliance level, have valid statutory certificates, and the annual Compliance Verification must be within the annual window (See §4.2 below).
- 3.2.2 If the re-registration occurs after the anniversary date and the Compliance Verification has not yet occurred, it must be completed within 30 days of the re-registration, but not later than the end of the annual window.
- 3.2.3 Yachts that are within their renewal window must complete the renewal Compliance Verification prior to re-registration.
- 3.2.4 Yachts must close all outstanding deficiencies with their AR prior to re-registration if they have been issued a short-term PAXYCC/YETCC or which have active deficiencies from the last Compliance Verification.
- 3.2.5 Inspections, surveys, and audits relating the international convention statutory certificates must be carried out as required by the respective convention requirements.
- 3.2.6 Yachts carrying a PAXYCC wishing to re-register as a private yacht may do so without a pre-registration inspection, provided the international convention statutory certificates are valid.

4.0 Compliance Verifications

4.1 Scheduling Compliance Verifications

- 4.1.1 The owner or representative of a commercial yacht, PAXY, or YET must directly contact an AR to make the necessary arrangements for a Compliance Verification. Annual and renewal Compliance Verifications must be scheduled and completed within the appropriate time frame outlined in §4.2 and §4.3 below.
- 4.1.2 AR contact details may be found in RMI Marine Guideline [2-11-15](#).
- 4.1.3 The AR must notify the Administrator before commencing the Compliance Verification via email to yacht-inspections@register-iri.com.
- 4.1.4 It is the responsibility of the owner or their representative to present the yacht for Compliance Verification and make sure that the AR is given full access to the yacht, its equipment, and documentation.
- 4.1.5 Failing to comply with this Notice may result in an overdue Compliance Verification which may invalidate the yacht's Compliance Certificate. This could lead to the invalidity of the:
 - .1 CYCC;
 - .2 PAXYCC; or
 - .3 YETCC.

In these circumstances, the Certificate of Registry may also become invalid.

- 4.1.6 Yachts that allow their CYCC, PAXYCC, or YETCC to become invalid may be subject to an initial or renewal Compliance Verification.

- 4.5.2 If no extension is granted and a certificate becomes invalid or a Compliance Verification becomes overdue, the yacht is immediately prohibited from engaging in any charter activities. If the Compliance Verification or the certificate remains overdue for more than 30 days without an extension, the Administrator will revoke, without any prior notification, the yacht's Compliance Certificate and the yacht will be prohibited from chartering. If considered necessary, the Administrator may, at its discretion, downgrade the yacht to a private yacht.
- 4.5.3 Once the yacht has been downgraded to a private yacht or the Compliance Certificate has been revoked, the yacht must undergo a renewal Compliance Verification to reinstate the Compliance Certificate. There is a fee for reinstatement, which is detailed in RMI Marine Notice [1-005-2](#), *Consolidated Fees and Charges List for Official Yacht Documents and Services*. This fee does not include the AR's charges for conducting the inspection.

5.0 Switching Registration Status

- 5.1 Commercial yachts and PAXYs may switch their COR to a private yacht (PY) on a temporary basis at the sole discretion of the Administrator. Submitting the declaration in MI-127PY is not necessary.
- 5.2 Where a private yacht COR is issued, full commercial yacht or PAXY compliance must be maintained, as acknowledged in the signed *Declaration of Intent to Maintain Commercial Compliance* ([MI-127CC](#)) or *Declaration of Intent to Maintain Passenger Yacht Compliance* ([MI-127PAXY](#)) that is on file with the Administrator. This includes commercial manning levels and crew certification.
- 5.3 Failing to maintain the required compliance with the switched registration status will result in the Administrator withdrawing the yacht's Certificate of Compliance.

6.0 Tender Registration and Compliance

- 6.1 Tenders carried on board any size commercial yacht, PAXY, or YET, must be issued a Tender Statement of Compliance (TSC) (MI-289TSC) per RMI Marine Notice [2-011-43](#).