

REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS (RMI) FLAG UPDATES

Yacht Engaged in Trade Seminar
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International Registries, Inc.
in affiliation with the Marshall Islands Maritime & Corporate Administrators

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RMI YACHT CODE (MI-I03) UPDATE

- The RMI Yacht Code (the “Code”) was fully revised in 2013 to meet the industry’s need for substantial equivalencies to certain areas of applicable international conventions.
- The RMI Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) received positive industry feedback, but also feedback for areas of improvement.
- In October 2015, a revised Code was published which took into account this feedback.



THE CODE UPDATE (continued)

- I. The Code has been divided into chapters:
 - Chapter I: Introduction, General Application, and Definitions
 - Chapter II: Commercial Yachts
 - Chapter III: Passenger Yachts (PAXYs)
 - Chapter IV: Private Yachts Limited Charter (PYLCs)
 - Chapter V: Yachts Engaged in Trade (YETs)
2. Various hyperlinks throughout the Code reference certain national requirements on the website.



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THE CODE UPDATE (continued)

3. PYLCs have been restricted to < 500 gross tons (GT)
4. Revised structural fire protection for yachts < 500 GT
5. Rescue boats on yachts < 500 GT
6. Various additions to the existing requirements for PYLCs
 - Upon review by the Administrator and by the United States (US) Coast Guard (USCG) recommendations requirements were added to the PYLC regulations and inserted in Chapter IV
7. Sections of the Code were removed and converted into Marine Notices (MNs) or other relevant documents

HELICOPTER LANDING AREAS

- Provide a practical approach with the use of Aviation Inspection Bodies (AIBs)
 - AIBs provide certification of helicopter landing areas for commercial use
 - Safe operation without full requirements of the Civil Aviation Authority's Standards for Offshore Helicopter Landing Areas (CAP 437)
 - Aircraft type
 - Approach limitations
 - Conditional restrictions
 - Day/night
 - Environmental
 - Work with Classification Society certification of structure and related piping systems for firefighting and fueling

NEW RELATIONSHIPS

- Appointed Representatives
 - Mark Robinson Marine Consultants (MRMC)
 - US based inspectors for Azure and MRMC
- AIB
 - HeliOperations



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USCG POLICY LETTER

- Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 46 Subchapter I
 - Seagoing vessels of 300 GT or more are subject to USCG inspection
 - Language specifically includes recreational vessels (yachts)
 - Requirements are above those that a typical yacht, private or commercially compliant, could meet

USCG POLICY LETTER (continued)

- New Policy Letter regarding yachts issued on 18 November 2015
 - Provides specific inspection requirements for yachts (private and commercial)
 - Safety equipment
 - Manning
 - Recreational yachts 300 GT or more may comply with a national yacht code, i.e. the Code
 - Vessels above 500 GT to carry an International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Safety Equipment Certificate OR a Statement of Voluntary Compliance.
 - USCG has been visiting South Florida marinas for informational visits prior to commencing inspections.

USCG POLICY LETTER (continued)

- RMI response
 - Develop a chapter in the Code for private yachts
 - Sections to provide specifics for yachts 300 GT or more
 - All yachts to comply as applicable
 - Yachts sailing in or planning on sailing in US waters:
 - 300-499 GT: require inspection and certification
 - >500 GT: SOLAS Safety Equipment Certificate or RMI Safety Certificate
 - Commercial yachts, PYLCs, PAXYs, and YETs will have the required certificates already
- Wait and see...
 - Will enforcement of policy be maintained and consistent?
 - Industry push back?

RMI YACHT PROGRAM

Providing Solutions for Industry Needs

- Reasonable and practical approach
- More than 12 guests for private yachts
- PYLC
- YET
- Helicopter Landing Area certification through AIBs
- Yacht master licensing
 - 350 GT Master – stepping stone from RYA to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW)
 - Unlimited tonnage Master (Yachts) – breaking the glass ceiling

THANK YOU



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