



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

11495 COMMERCE PARK DRIVE
RESTON, VIRGINIA 20191-1507

TEL: (703) 620-4880
FAX: (703) 476-8522

Email: technical@register-iri.com

TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 14

Revision: 1

Page: 1 of 2

Date: 2 March 2009

Issuance of the Revised International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The most recent (2007) amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code) were adopted by the IMO on 13 July 2007, and are set forth in Resolution MEPC.166(56). These amendments are set to enter into force on 1 January 2009.
- 1.2 The 2007 IBC Code Amendments consist of a modest revision to the text of Chapter 11, Fire Protection and Fire Extinction, and a replacement of the tables under Chapters 17, 18, and 19 which incorporate a number of amendments and corrections to the chemical lists and cargo assessments.
- 1.3 Consequently, the form of the International Certificate of Fitness for the Carriage of Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (Certificate of Fitness) will require the inclusion of a new reference to the 2007 IBC Code Amendments per Resolution MEPC.166(56), upon its entry into force.

2.0 Instructions

- 2.1 The Marshall Islands Administration is authorizing its Recognized Organizations (ROs) involved in the survey and issuance of the Certificate of Fitness to Marshall Islands registered vessels to re-issue the Certificate of Fitness with the new reference and amended list of chemicals if any aspect of the list has changed consequential to the 2007 IBC Code Amendments.
- 2.2 The Certificate of Fitness shall be re-issued at the first scheduled Annual, Intermediate or Renewal Survey (whichever occurs first) after the 2007 IBC Code Amendments enter into force.
- 2.3 Meanwhile the Paris MOU has issued PSCircular 35. In order to clarify the situation for Port State Control Officers, the MOU Advisory Board (MAB) has discussed the issue and MAB has agreed that for a ship which meets the requirements of Resolution MEPC.166(56), but which does not have a Certificate of Fitness (CoF) with the adopted amendment, the PSCO may accept, in lieu of an updated CoF, a letter onboard the ship

TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 14

Revision: 1

Page: 2 of 2

Date: 2 March 2009

from the flag State or Recognized Organization. Such a letter should be attached to a valid CoF issued before 01-01-2009.

- 2.4 In order to avoid PSC actions, the ROs of Marshall Islands registered vessels are authorized and requested to issue a statement to subject vessels as per PSCircular 35 to the operators for attachment to the CoF. The CoF should be amended at the latest at the next renewal of the certificate. Any CoF issued after the 1 January 2009 should have a reference to Resolution MEPC.166(56).
