



Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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YACHT TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 11

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Sea Trials

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) recognizes that it is not always practicable and reasonable for yachts undergoing sea trials to have been issued with all of the required statutory certificates that confirm their compliance with international and national requirements.

1.2 This Circular provides:

- .1 the conditions under which an RMI registered yacht may undertake technical and delivery sea trials, while not fully compliant with RMI Maritime Regulations ([MI-108](#)) §2.11.3; and
- .2 the process for obtaining a temporary authorization from the Administrator to proceed to sea for such trials.

1.3 The purpose of the Administrator authorizing a yacht to conduct a sea trial is to ensure that it is fit to complete the voyage safely and is in substantial compliance with applicable requirements for foreign-flagged vessels in the local jurisdiction.

1.4 This Circular does not address the requirements for yachts without a valid RMI Certificate of Registry or Construction Certificate of Registry. In such cases, the owner and shipyard are responsible for undertaking the sea trials and making the necessary arrangements with the local jurisdiction.

2.0 Authorization process for sea trials

2.1 Before the intended sea trials, the owner, management, or shipyard must seek authorization from the Administrator to perform the sea trial voyages.

2.2 Unless determined otherwise by the Administrator, authorizations are only valid for a limited period and for a single sea trial voyage departing from and directly returning to the shipyard.

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- 2.3 A sea trial can only be undertaken by yachts holding a valid Construction Certificate of Registry ([MI-200C](#)) or a valid Certificate of Registry with a remark specifying any imposed restrictions, as determined by the Administrator.
- 2.4 Yachts undergoing sea trials must be appropriately manned with qualified crew. RMI endorsements are not required for the sea trial crew; however, they must be issued with the appropriate documentation in accordance with local regulations and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) '95, where applicable.

3.0 Required Information

The following documentation must be emailed to yachttec@register-iri.com for the Administrator to issue a letter of authorization for a sea trial:

- 3.1 A Statement of Confirmation (SoC) from the Recognized Organization (RO), confirming that a survey, as per the **Appendix** to this Circular, has been carried out to verify that the yacht is “Fit for Purpose” to undertake the intended sea trials;
- 3.2 A written confirmation from the local coastal State authority, that there is no objection for the yacht to undertake the intended trials, if applicable;
- 3.3 A Letter of Request (e-mail is acceptable) outlining the following:
 - .1 project-built number or name of the yacht;
 - .2 date of the survey carried out;
 - .3 port of departure and arrival;
 - .4 date of departure and arrival; and
 - .5 information on voyage planning.
- 3.4 An electronic original Wreck Removal Blue Card for vessels over 300 gross tons is provided (see Marine Notice (MN) [2-011-45](#));
- 3.5 An electronic, original Bunker Blue Card for vessels over 1,000 gross tons (see MN [2-011-27](#)); and
- 3.6 A copy of the Application for Minimum Safe Manning Certificate ([MI-336](#)), only if a Minimum Safe Manning Certificate is required by the local Coastal State authorities.
- 3.7 A copy of Third Part Liability and Hull and Machinery Insurance

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4.0 Authorization Letter and Documentation for Sea Trial

If the information required in this Circular is provided, and the underlying requirements are met, the Administrator will issue the following documents to the yacht owner for the intended sea trials:

- 4.1 Authorization letter to undertake sea trials;
- 4.2 Wreck Removal Liability Certificate, if applicable;
- 4.3 Civil Liability Bunker Certificate, if applicable; and
- 4.4 Minimum Safe Manning Certificate, if applicable.
- 4.5 Radio Station License Temporary Authorization (TA)

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Appendix

This appendix serves as a minimum survey guidance for the RO surveyor to issue a SoC if the yacht has been found to be “Fit for Purpose” to undertake the intended sea trials.

Unless expressly authorized otherwise by the Administrator, the SOC will be issued for a single sea trial voyage only and must contain the following minimum information:

- a. project number or name of the yacht
- b. shipyard name and location
- c. date of verification
- d. date of intended sea trial
- e. confirmation that the yacht was found to be fit for the intended voyage after having successfully verified the items listed in this Appendix.

The following items must be verified by and to the satisfaction of the attending RO surveyor. Where the surveyor finds non-conformities or non-compliance during the survey, the RO must contact the Administrator for further guidance.

The document and the SOC must be submitted to the Administrator prior to commencement of the intended sea trials.

Shipyard / builder:	Location:
Project Number or Yacht Name:	IMO Number:
Sea Trial date (dd/mm/yyyy) – Commencing:	Sea Trial date (dd/mm/yyyy) – Concluding:
Number of Crew:	Number of total persons onboard:

	Check
Fire Safety and Structural Fire Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire and safety plan including muster list are posted in the appropriate locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of general alarm.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination of fixed fire extinguishing system, including service report.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sufficient portable fire extinguishers.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test of fire doors.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of fire detection and alarm system (at random).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sufficient approved firefighters’ outfits.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Visual examination and operational test of fire mains, pumps and hydrants, including emergency fire pump.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination of structural fire protection.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test of emergency lighting, emergency exits, escape routes, doors and hatches.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lifesaving Appliances	
Examination of sufficient capacity of life saving appliances for all persons intended to take part of the sea trials.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test of lifeboats and launching equipment (if provided).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test of an approved rescue boat or other alternative installed including launching arrangement.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination of life rafts, (launching) equipment and hydrostatic release systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of a line-throwing appliance and sufficient distress pyrotechnic equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Structural Integrity, Subdivision, and Stability	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test (if applicable) of WT bulkheads and doors.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lightweight/stability test carried out and stability calculation approved by the RO and verified appropriate for the sea trial.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual verification that applicable hull, window and porthole openings are properly closed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Machinery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of bilge system and pumps (ER/forepeak/alarms).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test on engine alarms and stops.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of emergency source of electrical power.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test of emergency steering gear.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of remote control for SOS valves.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deck and Navigation Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination of anchor gear.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of communication between bridge/ER/emergency steering gear/emergency telegraph (telephone lists available).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational test of navigation systems and all associated equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sufficient approved and appropriate nautical charts and nautical publications for the intended area of sea trial.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of a SART and properly programmed EPIRB.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visual examination and operational test of navigation lights and shapes in accordance with COLREG.	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Report from an RO-approved radio service provider confirming that the GMDSS radio installation and associated equipment has been tested and is fully operational for the intended sea area.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of sufficient and appropriate medical equipment and medicines for the intended sea trial.	<input type="checkbox"/>
If overnight sea trials, appropriate accommodation berths, catering, and sanitary services available.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sanitary facilities including flushing toilets, hand washing/ drying facilities services (with soap, hot and cold running water).	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational limitations imposed by the RO or Administrator as part of meeting the sea trial requirements have been correctly transposed and prominently displayed in appropriate locations.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional remarks by surveyor:

Name RO Surveyor:	Stamp:
Signature:	
