



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

AANWAS 53, 4704 SC
ROOSENDAAL
THE NETHERLANDS

Tel: +31-165-515161

Email: yachttec@register-iri.com

YACHT TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 16

Revision: 0

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Date: 11 July 2025

Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships

1.0 Introduction

This Yacht Technical Circular clarifies the Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) applicability for yacht compliance with the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships (the “Hong Kong Convention”).

2.0 Applicability for yachts

The Hong Kong Convention entered into force on 26 June 2025 and further applies to commercial yachts, private yachts, and passenger yachts (PAXYs) of 500 gross tonnage (GT) and above.

3.0 Requirements

- 3.1 On or after 26 June 2025, all new yachts to which the Hong Kong Convention applies must have an Inventory Hazardous Material (IHM) Part I and an International Certificate on IHM onboard.
- 3.2 For the purpose of §3.1 above, a **new yacht** means a yacht:
 - .1 for which the building contract is placed on or after 26 June 2025;
 - .2 in the absence of a building contract, has a keel which is laid or is at a similar stage of construction on or after 26 December 2025; or
 - .3 delivered on or after 26 December 2027.
- 3.3 On or after 26 June 2030, or before the yacht is recycled, if earlier, all existing yachts to which the Hong Kong Convention applies must have a verified IHM Part I and an International Certificate on IHM onboard. An **existing yacht** is regarded as one which is not a “new” yacht.

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4.0 Survey and Certification

- 4.1 Yacht owners may choose the Administrator or any Recognized Organization (RO) irrespective of whether the RO classes the yacht, for survey and verification of the IHM Part I and issuance of the International Certificate on IHM. For a list of ROs, see Marine Guideline [2-11-15](#), §2.0 and §4.0.
- 4.2 For further requirements on the certification process, see Marine Notice [2-011-61](#).
