



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

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YACHT TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

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Delegating Yacht Code Compliance Reviews and Surveys for New Construction and Conversions

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) delegates to its Classification Societies or Appointed Representatives (ARs) the plan reviews, surveys, and certification requirements of the applicable international conventions, to which the RMI is a party. This Yacht Technical Circular outlines the delegation scope for new construction and conversions of yachts that are RMI-registered, or intend to be.

2.0 Compliance to the RMI Yacht Code

2.1 The Administrator considers the RMI Yacht Code, [MI-103](#), (the “Code”) and its application to yachts to be an equivalent arrangement to certain aspects of the applicable international conventions’ provisions.

2.2 The Code applies to commercial yachts (CYs), private yachts limited charter (PYLCs), Yachts Engaged in Trade (YETs), and passenger yachts (PAXYs). Private yachts (PYs), as defined in the Code, should be constructed following the Code to the extent reasonable and practical.

3.0 Delegation of Authority

3.1 Classed Yachts

3.1.1 The Code requires that classed yachts be certified for compliance to the international statutory conventions.

3.1.2 Classed yachts, under construction or undergoing a major conversion, must have the Classification Society in charge of plan review, surveys, and certification of the applicable international statutory conventions’ requirements. The Classification Society must also perform the plan reviews and surveys for the applicable Code sections.

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- 3.1.3 On completion of the construction or conversion, the Classification Society may issue a Statement of Compliance, confirming that the yacht has been constructed or has undergone a major conversion following the applicable requirements of international conventions, to which the RMI is a party, and to the applicable Code sections, as appropriate.
- 3.1.4 In addition to the Statement of Compliance issued by the Classification Society, RMI yachts registered as a CY, PYLC, YET, or PAXY or intending to be, must have an AR conduct an RMI Compliance Verification. The AR will issue an RMI CY, PYLC, YET, or PAXY Compliance Certificate on successful completion. Refer to the RMI Marine Notice [2-011-53](#) (CYs, PAXYs, and YETs) and RMI Marine Notice [2-011-54](#) (for PYLCs).

3.2 Unclassed Yachts

- 3.2.1 Unclassed private yachts (24 meters or more in length), under construction or undergoing a major conversion and not under Classification Society supervision, must have an AR selected by the shipyard, the owner, or their representative, to supervise, perform plan reviews, survey, and certify the yacht to the applicable international statutory conventions. Contact details of the ARs can be found in RMI Marine Guideline [2-11-15](#).
- 3.2.2 The AR must be selected at an early stage of construction or conversion. The Administrator must be informed in writing which AR has been chosen to do the work. Non-mandatory Code sections should be applied as far as practicable.
- 3.2.3 If the yacht intends to register or is registered as a PYLC, the AR must carry out an RMI Compliance Verification and issue an RMI PYLC Compliance Certificate (reference RMI Marine Notice 2-011-54).

4.0 Applications for Exemptions and Equivalencies

- 4.1 Following the Code Chapter I, §2.4, all requests for exemptions and equivalencies from specific application requirements specified in any international convention or code must be made in writing. These requests, addressed to the Administrator, must include supporting documentation and must be submitted with a recommendation from the Classification Society (classed yachts) or AR (unclassed yachts) conducting the survey. The Administrator will authorize an exemption or equivalency when it is considered appropriate.
