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YACHT TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 2

Revision:4

Page: 1 of 3

Date: 26 April 2023

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

1.0 Introduction

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) delegates plan reviews, surveys, and certification functions of applicable international conventions to Classification Societies or Appointed Representatives (ARs) under written agreement. 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

- .1 The Code requires that classed yachts be certified for compliance with the international statutory conventions.
- .2 Classed yachts, under construction or undergoing a major conversion or modification, must have a 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.

YACHT TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 2

Revision: 4

Page: 2 of 3

Date: 26 April 2023

- .3 On completion, the Classification Society must issue a Statement of Compliance (SoC) confirming that the yacht has been constructed or 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. Additionally, it must contain the following minimum information:
- a. name of builder/yard;
 - b. name and/or project number of the construction/yacht;
 - c. the applicable chapter(s) to which the construction has been assessed by the Classification Society (See [MI-103](#) §2.1.2 – §2.1.5);
 - d. any restrictive notes or conditions that have been applied by the Classification Society (See [MI-103](#) §2.4);
 - e. if any exemptions certificates¹ have or will be issued by the Classification Society on behalf of the RMI;
 - f. any sections of the applicable sections of the [MI-103](#) that have not been assessed by the Classification Society; and
 - g. date and signature.
- .4 In addition to the SoC issued by the Classification Society, 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 (MN) [2-011-53](#) (CYs, PAXYs, and YETs) and MN [2-011-54](#) (for PYLCs).

3.2 Unclassed Yachts

- .1 Unclassed private yachts (24 meters or more in length), undergoing construction, a major conversion or modification 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 ARs are in RMI Marine Guideline [2-11-15](#).

1. The exemption certificates must be listed.

YACHT TECHNICAL CIRCULAR

Circular Number: 2

Revision: 4

Page: 3 of 3

Date: 26 April 2023

- .2 The AR must be selected at an early stage of the construction, conversion or modification. The Administrator must be informed in writing which AR has been chosen to perform the statutory services on behalf of the RMI.
- .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 (see MN [2-011-54](#)).

4.0 Applications for Exemptions and Equivalencies

- 4.1 Following the Code Chapter I, §2.3.2, all requests must be made in writing for exemptions and equivalencies from specific application requirements specified in any international convention or code. These requests must be addressed to the Administrator, include supporting documentation, and submitted with a recommendation from the Recognized Organization (RO) conducting the plan review and surveys.
- 4.2 The Administrator will authorize an exemption or equivalency when it is considered appropriate. In cases where an exemption was authorized by the Administrator, the RO must issue an Exemption Certificate in accordance with the applicable international convention.
