



Merchant Shipping Directorate



## ELECTRONIC LOG BOOKS

### *Technical Notice SLS.11*

*Notice to Shipowners, Ship Operators, Managers, Masters,  
Owners' Representatives and Recognised Organisations*

Reference Sections 190-194 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1973, as amended and Regulation 28 of Chapter V to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, and 1988 Protocol relating thereto.

Electronic log books are accepted for use on Maltese registered ships as full replacement for paper log books provided the following are complied with:

- the work station on the bridge where the log book is to be maintained shall comply with the IMO "Guidelines on Ergonomic Criteria for Bridge Equipment and Layout" contained in MSC/Circ.982;
- the presentation of the logbook shall comply with the requirements of Resolution MSC.86 (70) and MSC/Circ.982(5.3.4);
- lighting of the display and keyboard shall comply with the requirements of MSC/Circ.982(5.3.6);
- the electronic log book provides for entry of data required by Section 191 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1973, as amended. Alternatively, the Maltese Official Log Book is to be maintained in conjunction with the electronic log book.
- updates relative to the system's basic functionality or security shall be available at all times.

The Company's Safety Management System shall include procedures addressing:

- regular back up of data at the Company's offices. Back-up shall be carried out at least on a daily basis unless prevailing circumstances dictate otherwise;
- retention of back-up data at the Company's offices. Data shall be retained for a period of not less than three years;
- immediate availability and access to data by the Administration, upon request.

The following documentation shall be carried on board the ship at all times and be readily available for inspection upon request:

- a declaration from the electronic logbook producer or the installation company that the system has been installed according to current regulations, performance tested and found to be in full functioning order
- a declaration from the Owners that the officers on board have received training in accordance with STCW-95 Regulation I/14.1.4

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Malta Transport Centre  
Marsa, MRS 1917 Malta

Tel: +356 2125 0360 Fax: +356 2124 1460  
Email: [mershipmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt](mailto:mershipmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt)  
[www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration](http://www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration)