

Palau International Ship Registry



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MARINE NOTICE 218.1

To: SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, MASTERS, OFFICERS, RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS AND FLAG STATE INSPECTORS.

Subject: SHIP SECURITY ALERT SYSTEM (SSAS)

1. Reference

- 1.1 SOLAS, International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, Consolidated Edition 2014, as amended;
- 1.2 ISPS Code, International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, 2003 edition, as amended
- 1.3 ISM Code, International Safety Management (ISM) Code, 2014 edition, as amended
- 1.4 IMO Resolution MSC.147(77), *Adoption of the Revised Performance Standards for a Ship Security Alert System*, adopted 29 May 2003
- 1.5 IMO Circular MSC/Circ.1072, *Guidance on Provision of Ship Security Alert Systems*, dated 26 June 2003
- 1.6 IMO Circular MSC/Circ.1155, *Guidance on the Message Priority and the Testing of Ship Security Alert Systems*, dated 23 May 2005
- 1.7 IMO Circular MSC/Circ.1190, *Guidance on the Provision of Information for Identifying Ships When Transmitting Ship Security Alerts*, dated 30 May 2006

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of this Marine Notice is to update the instructions and procedures of the Ship Security Alert System (SSAS) according to SOLAS'74, as amended Chapter XI-2 Regulation 6 and the IMO Resolutions as mentioned above.
- 2.2 This Marine Notice is in force from the day it is issued.



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3. General Information and Applicability

- 3.1. In accordance with SOLAS Regulation XI-2/6, all Palau flagged ships on international voyages, in the general categories listed below, shall have an SSAS installed on board
 - 3.1.1 passenger ships, including high-speed passenger craft;
 - 3.1.2 cargo ships, including high-speed craft, of 500 gross tonnage and upwards; and
 - 3.1.3 mechanically propelled mobile offshore drilling units. as defined in SOLAS IX/1, not on location

4. SSAS Requirements

- 4.1 In accordance with SOLAS XI-2/6, activation of the SSAS shall initiate and transmit a ship-to-shore security alert to a Competent Authority indicating that the security of the ship is under threat or has been compromised.
- 4.2 The Competent Authority is the office of Palau Ship Registry Administrator and therefore Palau International Ship Registry is responsible for receiving SSAS transmission.
- 4.3 A malfunction or defect in the SSAS is considered a failure of the compliance with the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, and such malfunction or defect must be reported to Palau Ship Registry Administrator.

5. SSAS Transmission

- 5.1. For Palau flagged ships the Ship Security Alert shall be sent directly to both the Company Security Officer (CSO) and the Palau Ship Registry Administrator. The SSAS should be programmed to send an alert message to: **ssas@palaureg.com**
- 5.2. CSO is required to verify that the SSAS installed on board Palau registered vessels has been correctly programmed to transmit all SSAS alerts directly the Administrator and the Company.
- 5.3. When a company authorize a third-party service provider to receive the SSAS messages on behalf other Company, the Company should provide contact details for the service provider to the Palau Ship Registry Administrator.



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5.4. At a minimum the SSAS message should provide:

- a. Name of Ship
- b. IMO Number
- c. Call Sign
- d. Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) Number
- e. Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) Position (latitude and longitude) of the Ship
- f. Course and speed of the Ship
- g. Date and time (UTP) of the GNSS position

6. SSAS Testing

6.1 Following the initial installation of the SSAS, the Company shall ensure that the system is tested and maintained to satisfy the operation requirements as per the approved Ship Security Plan.

6.2 When the SSAS is initially activated, a test message is required by the Palau Ship Registry Administrator and then annually. The test message should contain the word: "TEST" in order to avoid any conflict with real alert messages.

6.3 In case the system is not capable of inserting the word "TEST" into the alert message, the company need to inform the Palau Ship Registry Administrator, before sending the alert, that the system will be tested. The email which the company will inform the Palau Ship Registry Administrator that the SSAS will be tested is technical@palaureg.com

ATTENTION: In this occasion we do not use the email: ssas@palaureg.com which is to be used only for SSAS transmission. All other communication to the Palau Ship Registry Administrator is to be done through the email: info@palaureg.com.

6.4 Testing of the SSAS shall be properly logged in the vessel's Official Log.

6.5 The Palau Ship Registry Administrator will only provide confirmation of receipt of the SSAS test messages for audit and compliance verification purposes. Confirmation of other test messages will not be provided. In order to obtain such confirmations, a request should be sent by email to technical@palaureg.com and include:

- a. Date and time of proposed test
- b. Purpose of the test
- c. Email address of the CSO (or the company) where the CSO requests the Palau Ship Registry Administrator to send the acknowledgement of the test message.
- d. Vessel name and IMO Number
- e. Test messages will be confirmed during the working hours of the Palau Ship Registry Administrator.



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- f. The confirmation email of the SSAS Test message by the Palau Ship Registry Administrator should be retained on board as evidence until the next audit.

7. Special Instructions in High Risk Areas (HRA)

- 7.1 The Palau Ship Registry Administrator recommends that all Palau registered vessels with or without armed or unarmed security personnel, and that prior to the entry into the High-Risk Area (HRA), the crew should be fully briefed on the preparations and a piracy drill shall be conducted as well. The security drill should be reviewed and all personnel briefed on their duties, including familiarization with the alarm using to identify a piracy attack, these drills must follow all the requirements listed above, indicating that it is a "Piracy Drill" or "SASS Test".
- 7.2 Palau registered vessels are requested to verify that the SSAS equipment have been correctly set-up and is working properly.
- 7.3 These measures should be taken to ensure that the security procedures are working properly along with the recommendations stated in the Best Management Practices (BMP4) and the Internationally Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC).

8. Contact

- 8.1. Any inquiries concerning the subject for this Marine Notice should be directed to the Office of the Palau Ship Registry Administrator at technical@palaureg.com

****This Marine Notice supersedes Marine Circular 18-057**

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