



TECHNICAL ALERT No. 14-02

Minimum Safe Manning Document (MSMD) Validity

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Bahamas Maritime Authority wishes to remind all parties that The Bahamas Maritime Authority revised its Minimum Safe Manning Document (MSMD) to take into consideration the revisions to the international safe manning guidelines (IMO Resolution A. 1047(27)), and the implementation of Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC 2006) and 2010 amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers 1978 (STCW).
- 1.2. Full details of The Bahamas requirements in relation to manning are outlined in BMA Information Bulletin 115.
- 1.3. This Technical Alert is to remind all parties to review the MSMD onboard their managed ships to ensure that it is valid and that the required number of persons, based on the Company's assessment of assigned shipboard duties, are provided.

2. Review of Minimum Safe Manning Document (MSMD)

- 2.1. The BMA has received a number of reports relating to ships which are not in compliance with Bahamian requirements due to the MSMD :
 - i. not having an expiry date and not being renewed prior to 31 December 2013 as outlined in Section 15.4 of BMA Information Bulletin 115, or
 - ii. having an expired date.
- 2.2. Managers are reminded that all Bahamian MSMD shall have a validity date not exceeding 5 years from the date of issue and if the ship has a MSMD that does not have an expiry date or if the MSMD has expired, Managers shall apply for a new MSMD.

- 2.3. Managers are further reminded that a new MSMD is required where there is a :
- i. change of vessel's name, or
 - ii. change trading area as documented on the MSMD, or
 - iii. change of Managers; or
 - iv. change of or alterations to the ship, its crew, construction, machinery, equipment, operation, maintenance, or management that affects the manning level required to continue safe and secure operations
- 2.4. In applying for the renewal of a MSMD, Managers shall use the application form which is available electronically on the BMA website (<http://www.bahamasmaritime.com/downloads/Registration/R106.pdf>) and ensure that all Sections of the application form are completed.
- 2.5. The completed application form and details of payment may be sent by email to the BMA (stcw@bahamasmaritime.com).
- 2.6. All parties should note that the current renewal fee for a MSMD is US\$200 and there is an additional charge to send document(s) by secure post.

3. Validity

This Technical Alert is valid until further notice.

4. Revision History

Rev.0 (28 February 2014) – First issue