

Palau International Ship Registry



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MARINE NOTICE 108.1

To: RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS, SHIPOWNERS, MANAGERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS, DEPUTY REGISTRARS, AND FLAG STATE SURVEYORS

Subject: USE OF ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES

1. Reference

- 1.1 Marine Notice 101.1 Requirements on Carriage of Publications on Board Ships
- 1.2 IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 Guidelines for the Use of Electronic Certificates

2. Purpose

- 2.1 The Palau Ship Registry Administrator advocates the maritime industry's transformation towards smarter ships and intelligent ports, so as to facilitate greater administrative and operational efficiency. To this effect, Recognized Organizations (ROs) acting on behalf of the Palau Ship Registry Administrator to conduct survey and certification of Palauan ships, are encouraged to develop such capabilities that align with our objective to bring about greater efficiency for the maritime stakeholders.
- 2.2 In this regard, ROs issuing statutory certificates to Palauan ships on behalf of PISR are authorized and encouraged to develop capabilities to issue electronic version of the statutory certificates, to replace the traditional paper statutory certificates.

3. Background

- 3.1 The International Maritime Organization (IMO) guidelines, as contained in IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2, set out the features for electronic certificates to enable stakeholders to verify their authenticity. The guidelines are intended to alleviate the problems inherent in paper documentation and facilitate the maritime sector's move toward the use and acceptance of electronic certificates

4. Information

- 4.1 The electronic statutory certificates issued by ROs to PISR registered ships shall comply with FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 which, inter alia, identifies the



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following features:

- i) validity and consistency with the format and content required by the relevant international convention or instrument;
- ii) Protected from edits, modifications or revisions;
- iii) a unique tracking number for verification;
- iv) reliably and securely verifiable through a conveniently accessible and continuously available platform; and
- v) a printable and visible symbol that confirms the source of issuance.

4.2 The electronic statutory certificates issued by ROs in accordance to FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 shall be deemed valid in accordance with all applicable international instruments. In addition, the ROs must provide clear and simple instructions for any party who may wish to verify the validity and authenticity of the electronic statutory certificates.

4.3 Notwithstanding the compliance with requirements under the PISR flag, owners of Palauan ships should still continue to exercise the necessary due diligence to address any entry and clearance requirements that are specific to foreign ports that the ship calls at.

4.4 Owners of Palauan ships who wish to be provided with electronic certificates should approach the RO to enquire same and to confirm the suitability of the ship to replace the traditional paper certificates with electronic versions.

5. Contact

5.1 For further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Technical Department of Palau International Ship Registry at technical@palaureg.com

****This Marine Notice supersedes Marine Circular 017-045**

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