

Subject

Issuance of Exemption Certificates and
Conditional/Short Term Certificates for Panama Flagged
Vessels

ClassNK

Technical Information

No. TEC-0732
Date 1 May 2008

To whom it may concern

Panama Maritime Authority (hereinafter, PMA) has notified ClassNK of Merchant Marine Circular No.156 regarding the issuance of Exemption Certificates and Conditional/Short Term Certificates as per attached.

Conditional/Short Term Certificates have been issued by the discretion of ClassNK so far generally. However, the authorization for issuance of Conditional/Short Term Certificates is to be obtained from the PMA prior to issuance, and such request is to be sent to the PMA through ClassNK together with necessary information.

Meanwhile, ClassNK Technical Information regarding the treatment for Exemption Certificates will be issued separately.

For any questions about the above, please contact:

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Attachment:

1. Merchant Marine Circular No.156

NOTES:

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PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Segumar Panama

Merchant Marine Circular No. 156

To:	Owners/Operators of Panamanian Ships, Recognized Organizations
Subject:	Exemptions of requirements of International Conventions and National Regulations and Issuance of Conditional/ Short Term Certificates
Reference:	Resolution No. 614-440-ALCN of August 11, 1980 Resolution No. 614-33-ALCN of February 19, 1982

This Merchant Marine circular supersedes MMC. No 39

1. This Administration may grant to an individual ship exemptions from the provisions of a Convention if the ship complies with the conditions established by such convention, for the specific exemption
2. When an exemption is granted to a ship under and in accordance with the provisions of an International Convention an Exemption Certificate shall be issued in addition to the certificates requested by those Conventions.
3. A request for an Exemption Certificate shall be sent to the Segumar Panama Office by the Ship owner/ operator or legal representative.
4. The request must be made for each individual ship separately and must include the following:
 1. Copy of the Registry Certificate (Patente)
 2. Copy of the relevant full term statutory certificate and its attached forms and/or supplements.
 3. Application for exemption Certificate properly filled out.
5. This Administration authorizes all Recognized Organization to the issuance of an Interim Exemption Certificate with a validity which shall not exceed thirty days as long as the exemption to be issued is a renewal of the previous exemption certificate and conditions for this exemption remain the same
6. In cases where the Exemption Certificate is requested for the first time, the issuance of the Exemption Certificate is of complete prerogative of this Administration; that

means that in this case Recognized Organizations can not issue an Interim Exemption Certificate prior to the Administration's approval. The purpose of this Interim Exemption Certificate is to facilitate the process of the issuance of the Full Exemption Certificate, term in which the interested party must apply for the Full Exemption Certificate immediately.

7. In cases where a Recognized Organization determines that the condition of a ship or its equipment does not comply with the requirements of an International Convention, this Administration may authorize the Recognized Organization which has issued the vessel's statutory certificate, to issue a Conditional or Short Term Certificate, provided that the ship is fit to proceed to sea without harm to the ship, persons on board, or without presenting unreasonable threat of harm to the marine environment, allowing the vessel to proceed to a port where the necessary repairs may be carried out. The Recognized Organization shall immediately ensure that corrective action will be taken and shall, in due course, notify this Administration. If such corrective action is not taken before the expiration date of the Conditional Certificate, the Certificate shall be withdrawn and the Administration shall be notified immediately.
8. The request for authorization to issue Conditional Certificates shall be sent to the Segumar Panama Office by the Recognized Organization. Under no circumstances the Conditional Certificate shall be issued without the previous authorization of Segumar Panama Office.
9. The request must be made for each individual ship separately and must include:
 1. Copy of the Registry Certificate (Patente)
 2. Reasons to issue a conditional/ Short term Certificate
 3. Copy of the current statutory certificate, available onboard, relevant to the conditional certificate.
10. The Conditional/ Short term Certificate can be valid for a period no longer than ninety days. This Administration will not authorize the extension or re-issuance of such Conditional/ Short term Certificates, and will not authorize extensions exceeding ninety days.

March 18, 2008

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to: Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Panama Maritime Authority

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