



CIRCULAR MCO – 018-2021

DATE: SEPTEMBER 24th, 2021
FROM: MCO HEAD OFFICE – TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT
TO: SURVEYORS/ MANagements/ OWNERS/ OPERATORS
SUBJECT: BALLAST WATER CONVENTION. PANAMA POLICY

Dear All:

By this means we would like to draw your attention to circular **MMC-345** with guidance and instructions to ensure compliance with the Ballast Water Management Convention 2004 and the complementary IMO Resolutions and Circulars.

The Ballast Water Management Convention applies to vessels of any type. All Panamanian flagged ships shall comply with the following:

- Approved Ballast Water Management Plan
- Ballast Water Record Book

Also, Panamanian flagged vessels of 400 gross tonnage and more shall carry:

- International Ballast Water Management Certificate
- Approved Ballast Water Management Plan
- Ballast Water Record Book

Ballast Water Management Systems Type approved will be accepted on ships under Panama flag provided it's been approved in accordance with the Code or Guidelines on the Type Approval process for BWMS. Manufacturers interested in obtaining approvals may request a Recognition Certificate for the Ballast Water Management System through us by submitting the following documents to General Directorate of Merchant Marine:

- List of equipment limitations
- Certificate of type approval
- Additional supporting documents, such as type approvals by Classification Societies
- Test Results carried out by other Administration and/or Classification Society

Ballast Water Management Plans will be evaluated by SEGUMAR Panama according the regulations of the Ballast Water Management Convention. Interested parties wanting to apply for approval shall upload the ship's BWMP in order for it to be approved electronically.

Ships of 400 gross tonnage shall receive a International Ballast Water Management Certificate after completing in a satisfactory manner all surveys required by the Convention. The certificate will be issued electronically and can be printed whenever needed.

Certificates will cease to be valid if the annual/intermediate surveys are not completed within the periods specified in the Convention but an authorization may be given to allow the revalidation of the certificate as per our procedures as RO's for the appropriate surveys.

Note: **Circular MMC-345** attached for reference.

All related documents can be found on our website: <https://macosnar.com/>.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best Regards,



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