



Gibraltar Maritime Administration

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Shipping Information Notice – 134

Survey and certification regime for cargo vessels of Less than convention size

(Repeals SIN 046)

To: Owners, Operators, Masters, Designers, Builders, Recognized Organizations, and Insurers.

1. References

- Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Survey, Certification and Safety) Regulations 2004, Regulation 5.(2).
- IACS Recommendation No. 99 - "Recommendations for the Safety of Cargo Vessels of less than Convention Size.
- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)
- Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Regulations 2009

2. Introduction

- 2.1. This Shipping information Notice (SIN) 134 revises the information previously contained within SIN 046 now repealed.
- 2.2. SIN 134 sets out the Gibraltar Maritime Administration's survey and certification regime for cargo vessels of 24m load line length and above and under 500 gross tons (GT), which by virtue of size may not be subject to the safety requirements set out within the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Conventions, such as; the Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS) Convention, International Convention on Load Lines, International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea etc, in respect of but not limited to:
 - Load Lines;
 - Stability;
 - Fire safety;
 - Life saving appliances;
 - Radio installations;
 - Navigational equipment; and,
 - Safety of navigation.

3. Application

- 3.1. IACS Recommendation No. 99 - "Recommendations for the Safety of Cargo Vessels of less than Convention Size" (IACS 99), is adopted via the provisions contained within Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Survey, Certification and Safety) Regulations 2004, Regulation 5.(2).

- 3.2. Gibraltar registered cargo vessels of 24m load line length and above and under 500 gross tons shall meet the requirements of IACS 99.
- 3.3. In addition, cargo vessels of 300 GT and over shall meet the requirements of SOLAS Chapter IV in respect of radio-communication.
- 3.4. Cargo vessels engaged in the carriage of dangerous goods, chemicals, and/or liquified gasses in bulk shall meet the requirements of the following codes as applicable to the vessel:
- The International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code
 - The International Code of the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk (IGC Code)
 - The International Code of the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code)

3.5. Pollution Prevention

3.5.1. It should be noted that IACS 99 does not address marine pollution prevention, in this respect the Gibraltar Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution from Ships) Regulations 2009 bring into effect the requirements contained within the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

3.5.2. Gibraltar registered cargo vessels of 24m in load line length and less than 500 GT shall meet the requirements of MARPOL as applicable to the vessel.

4. Survey and Certification

4.1. In respect of the requirements set out within section 3, the Gibraltar Maritime Administration delegates the survey and certification functions to its Recognised Organisations.

4.2. IACS 99 does not specify the survey and certification regime, and in this respect the Gibraltar Maritime Administration requires that Gibraltar registered vessels to which by virtue of section 3 IACS 99 applies, the following survey and certification 5-year cycle is applied:

4.2.1. Subject to compliance with section 4.2.2 below, the Recognised Organisation is to issue a Statement of Compliance to the vessels attesting that the vessel meets the requirements of IACS 99. Such a Statement of Compliance shall not exceed a validity period of 5 years from the date of completion of the initial survey referred to in section 4.2.2.

4.2.2. IACS 99 Surveys:

- An initial survey prior to the vessel being brought into service or upon a change of registry to the Gibraltar Ship Registry (as applicable);
- An annual survey within +/- 3 months of the anniversary in respect of the validity date of the associated IACS 99 Statement of Compliance; and,
- A renewal survey within 3 months of the expiry date of the IACS 99 Statement of Compliance.

4.2.3. The survey and certification requirements of section 4.2.1 & 4.2.2 may be included by the Recognised Organisation under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) if in respect of the vessel it may be applicable to other survey and certification requirements under HSSC.

Steve Gomez – Chief Surveyor

For and on behalf of the Maritime Administrator

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