



Gibraltar Maritime Administration

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Shipping Information Notice – 109 Red Ensign Group Yacht Code - July 2024 Edition

To: Masters, Owners, Operators, Recognised Organisations & Certifying Authorities

Introduction

The purpose of this Shipping Information Notice (SIN) is to bring to the attention of designers, builders, owners, operators, managers, Recognised Organisations and Certifying Authorities, the newly published revised Red Ensign Group (REG) Yacht Code July 2024 Edition.

The July 2024 Edition represents the first significant revision since 2019, and has been developed over a period of two years in close consultation with the REG Yacht Code Industry Working Group, which consists of a wide-ranging number of stakeholders including shipyards, designers, management companies and regulatory authorities.

Substantive changes have been made to reflect the relevant regulatory amendments that have been published in recent years by the IMO, and to accommodate current trends and innovation in yacht design.

Significant amendments to the existing text have also been made to provide additional clarification to those areas of the Code which have previously been open to interpretation, with a view to ensuring its consistent application and setting a level playing field for industry.

The 2024 Edition REG Yacht Code may be obtained via: <https://www.redensigngroup.org/publications/>

Summary of application to new and existing vessels

Albeit the recent publication, the REG Yacht Code 2024 Edition will not come into force until July 2024, thus providing the industry time to both familiarise themselves with the 2024 Edition, and to comply.

As with the 2019 Edition, the 2024 Edition is comprised of 3 parts:

- Part A – Applicable to motor or sailing vessels of 24 metres in load line length and over in commercial use for sport or pleasure and which carry no cargo, and no more than 12 passengers (sail training vessels are included in this application).
- Part B – Applicable to pleasure yachts of any size, in private use or engaged in trade, which carry more than 12 but not more than 36 passengers and which do not carry cargo.
- Common Annexes – Annexes referred to within Parts A & B.

The 2024 REG Yacht Code Parts A & B continues to make provision for existing vessels, the keels of which were laid or were at a similar stage of construction before 01 July 2024, and which have been, or are currently under survey to the requirements of the REG Yacht Code 2019 Revision, or, the Large Yacht Codes (LY1, LY2, and LY3), and earlier editions of the Passenger Yacht Code, to continue to be considered under the standards in force at the time of initial survey.

The 2024 Edition additionally provides for existing vessels to alternately elect to apply for certification in accordance with the 2024 Code, where the Code shall apply to such vessels in the same way as it applies to new vessels.

Further to the above summary, it is recommended that designers, builders, owners, operators, managers, Recognised Organisations and Certifying Authorities, familiarise themselves with the “**Application**” and “**Editions of the Code**” sections contained within the 2024 REG Yacht Code, parts A & B as applicable.

Steve Gomez – Chief Surveyor (Ag)
For and on behalf of the Maritime Administrator

Issue date: 04 January 2024

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