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## BMI Circular 2005/002/Rev.1

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### Port State Control reporting

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Date: 19-12-2023

This is an updated version of the BMI Circular 2005/002. Adjustments to the text are highlighted in yellow.

To whom it may concern,

One of the important missions of the Belgian Maritime Administration is to safeguard the reputation of the Belgian flag as a quality flag. Maintaining the high quality standards of the Belgian registry is mutually beneficial for the Belgian Maritime Administration as for the shipping companies, operating ships under Belgian flag.

The quality of the Belgian flag is directly determined by the performance of the Belgian Maritime Administration as flag state as well as the fleet registered under its flag. It is therefore the responsibility of the Belgian Maritime Administration to closely monitor the performance of the ships under Belgian flag.

One means of assessing the performance of the fleet consists in the monitoring of the reporting from Port State Control (PSC). Remarks, observations and deficiencies collected from PSC reports, contribute a valuable feedback on the quality and performance of:

- The Belgian Maritime Inspectorate itself,
- Ships registered under Belgian flag,
- The shipping companies operating ships under Belgian flag,
- The Recognised Organisations, acting on behalf of Belgium,
- The Port State Control authorities.

The main goal of collecting the information from the PSC reporting is not to set up measures towards the shipping companies and their operated ships, but to enhance and optimise the flag state's supervision. Additionally it will allow the Belgian Maritime Inspectorate to assist and support the shipping companies upon ungrounded and incorrect actions from any PSC authority.

On the other hand, a statistical analysis will be drawn from the collected PSC reports. This analysis will enable the Belgian Maritime Inspectorate to monitor the evolution of the quality of the Belgian flag and compare the performance with other flag states.

Companies operating ships under Belgian flag, have to forward copies of all Port State Control reports, without delay, to the Belgian Maritime Inspectorate. This concerns both the reports with and those without remarks.

This requirement is applicable to **reports issued by all** Port State Control authorities. Included are at least the PSC authorities member of:

- Paris Memorandum of understanding (Paris MOU),
- Tokyo Memorandum of understanding (Tokyo MOU),
- United States Coast Guard.

By preference PSC reports are to be sent by mail to : [ship.belflag@mobiliteit.fgov.be](mailto:ship.belflag@mobiliteit.fgov.be).

In case of a detention the flag state should be contacted immediately. **This is also the case if, during a Port State Control inspection, it appears that the ship is likely to be detained.** Reference is made to BMI Circular 2008/002 Notification of incidents to the flag state.

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