Circular 2010/003

ISM - Flagstate procedures

Date: 26/11/2010

To whom it may concern,

In BMI Circular 2005/003 it is stated: 'The recognized classification societies are authorised to carry out the ISM verifications related to the Safety Management Certificate, on behalf of Belgium, in accordance with the working agreement, Table IV, section 1.27. This includes the required endorsements of the certificates.'

With resolution MSC.273(85) ISM Certificates are brought into line with the provisions on SOLAS relating to the extension of statutory certificates. This resolution enters into force on 1 July 2010.

A new form is added to the Safety Management Certificate due to this resolution: 'Endorsement where the renewal verification has been completed and part B 13.13 of the ISM Code applies' and 'Endorsement to extend the validity of the certificate until reaching the port of verification where part B 13.12 of the ISM Code applies or for a period of grace where part B 13.14 of the ISM Code applies'.

BMI will progressively replace the SMC Certificates. The purpose of BMI Circular 2010/003 is to give instructions to the recognized classification societies (R.O.) during this period.

In case of a renewal of an SMC Certificate which still has the former format the R.O. is authorised to issue a short term SMC with a maximum validity of 5 months. The report of the audit should be sent to ism-isps@mobilit.fgov.be without any delay.

In case of a renewal of an SMC Certificate which has the updated format the RO should sign the part 'Endorsement where the renewal verification has been completed and part B 13.13 of the ISM Code applies'. The validity of the endorsement should not exceed 5 months.

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