



# Technical Circular

No.: 039/2016

Date: 04<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**To whomsoever it may concern**

**Subject: RMI marine safety advisory regarding Completing The Critical Items Checklist Prior to Arrival In United States Ports.**

- Reference is made to RMI Marine Notice 5-034-5, describing measures to improve compliance of Republic of the Marshall Islands flagged vessels in United States ports, which states:

“Prior to arrival in a US port, the Master and Chief Engineer shall complete, sign, and submit the Critical Items Checklist (MSD 340). Failure to complete the MSD 340 may lead to suspension of the officer’s RMI seafarer documents and/or an additional audit of the vessel or Company SMS”.

- RMI has now issued Marine Safety Advisory No. 35-16 (copy attached) and has reiterated the importance of completing, verifying, and submitting the Critical Item Checklist (RMI Form MSD 340).
- The MSD 340 and the requirements for its use are to ensure that Masters, Chief Engineers, and all persons-in-charge verify critical items on board their ship prior to entry into a US port. Additionally, it ensures the vessel is in compliance with critical safety, security, and environmental protection standards and is safe to proceed into port.
- The Administration recommends that owners, operators and crew onboard must take note of the specific requirement for the completion and submission of the MSD 340. Accurate verification of all items set forth on the MSD 340 is extremely important to avoid unsafe conditions onboard RMI vessels and to avoid adverse actions by port State control authorities.
- Ship owners, operators and masters of RMI flagged vessels are advised to be guided by above.

**Enclosure:**

1. RMI Marine Safety Advisory No. 35-16 Reg. Completing the Critical Items Checklist Prior to Arrival In United States Ports.
2. RMI Form MSD340, Critical Items Checklist.



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