



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-251

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To: Shipowners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (ROs).

Subject: Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006) – MOBILE OFFSHORE DRILING UNITS AND MOBBILE OFFSHORE UNITS.

Reference: MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION, MLC 2006.

1. The purpose of this Circular is to inform users of the Panamanian Registry that this Administration has decided that the certification required by Regulation 5.1.3 and Standard A5.1.3 regarding to Maritime Labour Certificate and Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 shall not apply to Platforms or MODU (Mobile Offshore Drilling Units and MOUS), since their main service involves operations of drilling, exploration or exploitation of resources beneath the seabed.
2. Shipowners or operators may request voluntarily their units certification through a Recognized Organization authorized for the issuance of the Maritime Labour Certificate, however, the requirements of the MLC applies to seafarers or personnel covered by STCW with respect the living and working conditions on board, including the two new guaranties required by the Convention (Reference MMC 336), which will be verified by Porth State Control Authorities and Flag inspectors even though the Maritime Labor Certificate is not placed on board.
3. Personnel under the following conditions shall be excluded and not considered as seafarers, according to what is established on Resolution VII regarding information on occupational groups.
 - the duration of the stay on board,
 - the frequency of periods of work spent on board,
 - the location of the person's place of work, and
 - the purpose of the person's work on board.
4. The Platforms or MODU (Mobile Offshore Drilling Units) are subject to safety annual inspections (ASI), which shall be performed by the Flag surveyors.

February, 2017- Modification of Points 1 and 2.

March, 2013 – Addition of paragraph 5.

March, 2013 – Changes in paragraph 1.

August, 2012

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to: Maritime Labour Section Directorate General of Merchant Marine

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