



# REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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Ref: Re-Harmonization of IOPP Renewal Survey

Dear Sirs,

The following instructions apply to those ships that have decoupled their International Oil Pollution Prevention (IOPP) renewal survey prior to the entry into force (EIF) date of the Ballast Water Management Convention (the “Convention”) and now wish to re-harmonize the IOPP renewal survey with the other statutory renewal surveys. Such re-harmonization should be accomplished prior to the EIF date (08 September 2017) in order to avoid a re-harmonization after EIF being considered a renewal and potentially triggering D-2 compliance.

The instructions address the possible scenarios that are present depending upon the point at which the decoupling IOPP renewal survey was carried out prior to EIF, and the ship’s status in terms of the periodic IOPP surveys and the window for completion.

### 1. Completed Within Harmonized Survey Window

If the de-coupling survey was completed within the harmonized survey window, the original IOPP Certificate can be reinstated with the decoupling survey being endorsed on the original IOPP Certificate as an annual/intermediate survey as applicable and the decoupled IOPP Certificate being revoked.

### 2. Completed Before Harmonized Survey Window

If the decoupling survey was completed before the harmonized survey window had opened, and the original IOPP Certificate is now within the window for an annual/intermediate endorsement, then a new certificate may be issued using the original survey dates and (harmonized) expiry date. The certificate should be endorsed as applicable, and be given a new certificate number. The decoupled IOPP Certificate should be revoked. The decoupling survey may be credited as an occasional survey on the ship’s Classification status. The due annual/intermediate survey, as applicable, of the original certificate, is to be held as necessary prior to its window being closed.

3. Completed Before Harmonized Survey Window and with Certificate Overdue

If the decoupling survey was completed before the harmonized survey window had opened, and the original IOPP Certificate is now overdue for its annual/intermediate endorsement, then the original IOPP Certificate can be reinstated by revoking the decoupled IOPP Certificate, crediting the decoupling survey as an occasional survey on the ship's Classification status, and carrying out the overdue survey prior to EIF (08 September 2017) in order to credit the applicable overdue survey and update the original IOPP Certificate status. This survey should be to the scope of the survey that is overdue (i.e. annual or intermediate).

4. Completed After Annual/Intermediate Survey

If the decoupling survey was completed after the annual/intermediate survey and the window for the next annual/intermediate survey under the original IOPP Certificate has not passed, on the basis of its last endorsement, a new certificate may be issued using the original survey dates, the (harmonized) expiry date, and a new certificate number. The IOPP Certificate that was issued following the decoupling survey should be revoked and the decoupling survey be credited in the ship's Classification status as an occasional survey.

5. Notes

- i. The de-coupling survey stated in the above scenarios, when credited as an occasional, is not considered to be the one described in Reg. B-3.10.1.2 of the Convention.
- ii. The Recognized Organization (RO) should ensure that the certificate issued following the de-coupling survey is returned immediately to their office once the original certificate is re-instated.
- iii. Scenarios other than the above are to be considered on a case by case basis by the RO and a recommendation made to the Administrator.

If you have any questions regarding the above instructions, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Hans Molver  
Deputy Commissioner of Maritime Affairs

