



# Technical Circular

No.: 029/2018

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018

**To whomsoever it may concern**

**Subject: RMI Marine Safety Advisory on Clarification related to Certification Requirements for Seafarers operating on ships in Polar Waters.**

- IMO had adopted amendments to STCW convention vide resolution MSC.416(97) to include regulation V/4 for Mandatory minimum requirements for the training and qualifications of masters and deck officers on ships operating in polar waters; which will enter into force from 1 July 2018.
- Above mentioned MSC resolution provides a transitional provision which allows seafarers to meet the basic training or advanced training requirements by 1 July 2020 provided they have completed their approved seagoing service in Polar waters or equivalent, during preceding five (5) years before 1 July 2018; with at least 3 months in total sea service as a member of the deck watch at operational or management level as applicable.
- Republic of Marshall Islands has issued Marine Safety Advisory No. 11-18 providing clarification on certification requirements for seafarers operating on RMI ships in Polar Waters.
- Administration requires every crew member of ship with a Polar Ship Certificate to be familiarized with the procedures and equipment contained or referenced in Polar Waters Operation Manual (PWOM) that are relevant to their assigned duties.
- Evidence for compliance with STCW convention regulation V/4 is to be provided by seafarers. Administration will evaluate these deck officers, and include a notation on their officer's certificate indicating that they are qualified for polar water service. No separate certificate will be issued for qualification from administration.
- Ship owners/ operators and masters are advised to be guided by above and take necessary actions as applicable.

**Enclosure:**

1. RMI Marine Safety Advisory no. 11-18 dated 13 April 2018



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