

Circular 172 /2018

To: Owners, Fleet Managers & Deputy Registrars

Subject: Approved Service Providers entitled to operate on behalf of Cook Islands Flag administration.

Date: 7th May 2018

Summary

This circular revokes:

- Circular 131 / 2016;
- Circular 117 /2015;
- Circular 39 / 2012;

This Circular aims to draw your attention to the proper use of MCI Service providers.

It has come to the attention of the Administration that there are a number of rising cases where service providers have been requested to carry out services (including surveys) on board Cook Islands vessels outside the scope of their authorisation.

In this respect, the Administration has recently reviewed its policy concerning the service providers entitled to provide their own services for Cook Islands flagged vessels.

The following two main categories were considered:

a) *Surveys and Maintenance*

- Ambient Environmental Testing: Indoor Climate Testing, Lighting Testing, Noise Testing, Whole Body Vibration Testing;
- Automatic Identification Systems Inspection, Performance Testing and Maintenance;
- ESP Hull Gauging;
- Fire Extinguishing Systems Inspection/Maintenance;
- Hull Gauging;
- In-Water Survey;
- Inflatable Liferrafts, Inflatable Lifejackets, Hydrostatic Release Units, Inflatable Rescue Boats, Marine Evacuation Systems;
- Inspection of Low Location Lighting Systems;
- Inventory of Hazardous Materials;

- Measurement of Noise Level Onboard;
- Measurement of Public Address or General Alarm;
- Offshore Facility Inspection/Monitoring;
- Drilling Equipment Inspection
- Radio Communication Equipment Servicing
- Inspection, performance testing and maintenance of Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) Systems and Ship Security Alert (SSA) Systems
- Remote Inspection Techniques
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles;
- Underwater Remote Operated Vehicles;
- RO/RO Ships Door Examination;
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Maintenance;
- Servicing and Maintenance of Lifeboats, Launching Appliances, On-Load Release Gear, and Davit Launched Liferaft Automatic Release Hooks;
- Shore-Based Maintenance of Satellite Emergency Position Radio Beacons (EPIRBs);
- Tightness Testing of Closing Appliances with Ultrasonic Equipment
- Tightness Testing of Primary and Secondary Barriers of Gas Carriers with Membrane Cargo Containment Systems;
- Voyage Data Recorder Maintenance (VDR and S-VDR);
- Surveys of Masts and Rigging;
- Hydraulic tests of low and high-pressure cylinders;

b) Design and Calculations

- Naval architects;

Actions required

In order to avoid any further inappropriate use of Maritime Cook Islands service providers, Maritime Cook Islands requires:

For Category a)

Owners / Deputy Registrars to ensure that:

When a survey and maintenance service (annual, 5 yearly, occasional) is requested on board a Cook Islands vessel, **this shall be carried out only by a service provider approved by an IACS Recognised Organisation;**

The appointed service provider shall be entitled to carry out the requested survey / service only for the equipment(s) installed on board the Cook Islands vessel, in accordance with the list of manufacturer(s) reported in the Certificate(s) of Approval issued by the IACS Recognised Organisation, if any;



In case there is no approved service provider available and entitled to carry out the requested survey / service specifically for the equipment(s) installed on board the Cook Islands vessel at the vessel location, please contact MCI Technical Department at technical@maritimecookislands.com for further instructions;

Example:

The vessel "X" is requesting the annual service for the lifeboats made by the manufacturer "A". At the vessel location, there is only a service provider approved by IACS RO, but only entitled to carry out service for lifeboats made by the manufacturer "B". In this case, Owners / Deputy Registrar shall need to contact MCI Technical Department.

In case there is a service provider available at the vessel location, but not approved by an IACS Recognised Organisation, no survey / service shall be allowed on board the Cook Islands vessel;

For Category b)

1) Deputy Registrars / Fleet Managers which get requests from naval architect(s) to become appointed service provider, shall ensure that:

The request is forwarded to Maritime Cook Islands Technical Department at technical@maritimecookislands.com;

After satisfactory review of documents by Maritime Cook Islands Technical Department:

A letter of authorisation shall be issued to the naval architect with a validity of 12 months; the approved naval architect shall be published on the Maritime Cook Islands website <https://www.maritimecookislands.com/maritime-cook-islands/survey-and-certification/approved-service-providers/>

2) Deputy Registrars / Fleet Managers which get requests from naval architect(s) to renew their approval as appointed service provider, shall ensure that:

The request is forwarded to Maritime Cook Islands Technical Department at technical@maritimecookislands.com

Same process of authorisation shall be followed, as above mentioned.

Owners / Deputy Registrars to ensure that:

When a Cook Islands vessel is registered under a Classification Society(either IACS and Non IACS), which is also taking care of the statutory certification naval architecture works, such as design, drawings, freeboard / tonnage calculations and technical manuals, shall be produced by a naval architect chosen by the Owner, sent, reviewed and approved by the Classification Society;

When a Cook Islands vessel has the statutory certification taken care of by Maritime Cook Islands and she is either registered or not registered under a Classification Society(either IACS and Non IACS) two options shall deem acceptable:

1) naval architecture works, such as design, drawings, freeboard / tonnage calculations and technical manuals, shall be produced by a naval architect chosen by the Owner, and then sent, reviewed and approved by an IACS Classification Society;

2) naval architecture works, such as design, drawings, freeboard / tonnage calculations and technical manuals, shall be produced by a naval architect chosen by the Owner, and then sent, to Maritime Cook Islands Technical Department for review and final approval at technical@maritimecookislands.com;

In the case 2) even if naval architecture works have been produced by a Cook Islands appointed naval architect, they have to receive the final approval from Maritime Cook Islands Technical Department.

Actions taken by Maritime Cook Islands

For Category a)

In case of surveys / services carried out by service providers:

not approved by an IACS Recognised Organisation;

approved by an IACS Recognised Organisation, but not specifically for the equipment(s) installed on board the Cook Islands vessel;

Maritime Cook Islands shall deem invalid the above survey / services and shall request Owners / Deputy Registrars to arrange them at the next port of call, or at the



first available date for the approved service provider entitled to carry out the requested survey / services, whichever comes earlier, at Owner's costs.