



Technical Circular

No.: 080/2020

Date: 15th May 2020

Subject: Panama Merchant Marine Notice No. MMN-07-2020 Reg Request for Postponement/ Extension of Statutory Certification and Services due to outbreak of COVID-19

1. Panama Maritime Authority has issued updated Merchant Marine Notice No. MMN-07-2020 providing following interim measures in respect of postponement/ extension of statutory certification and services due to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
2. Recognized Organizations are allowed to:
 - A. Postpone/Extend all surveys, audits and inspections **for a period of three (3) months**, subject to a subsequent revalidation or reinstatement of the correspondent certificate.

Accordingly, the Recognized Organization (RO) are required to ensure that

- a. All statutory certificates remains valid using remote surveys or visits whenever possible. However, in those cases that a remote survey or visits are not possible to be carried out, the RO is authorized to maintain the validity of the statutory certificate for the grace period aforementioned.
- b. All records justifying each case according to the circumstances are to be kept and remain available to any Port State Control Authority and as well as this Administration.
- B. Annual servicing of life saving appliances and firefighting equipment with due date between **March and May 2020**, are allowed for an immediate extension valid for **one (1) month** subject to the agreement of the Recognized Organization. Extensions required for a longer period will be granted on a case by case basis, for the maximum period of three (3) months provided that supporting evidence of each case is presented to extensions@segumar.com
- C. Ship-owners/operators of ships currently holding a Conditional Certificate related to a deficiency or damage onboard, are required to contact the Administration if the necessary malfunction, repair or administrative related matter is not possible to rectify, carry out or be provided. An email along with supporting evidence of each case is to be sent to conditionals@segumar.com. Ensure that Recognized Organization responsible to issue the correspondent certificates is in agreement with the conditions on board.

- D. **The validity of all statutory certificates** (except for Conditional Certificates) expiring between March and May 2020 are **extended exceptionally for a period of three (3) months**, including among them:
- a. Maritime Labour Certificate (MLC, 2006)
 - b. Safety Management Certificate (SMC)
 - c. Document of Compliance (DOC)
 - d. International Tonnage Certificate (ITC-69)
 - e. International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC)
 - f. Exemption Certificates
 - g. Certificate of Registry (Patente)
 - h. Radio License
- E. Request for authorization towards postponement of ISPS verification for three (3) months is to be made thru the E-Segumar platform on the following website link: <http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates>
- F. Colour copy of original signed Ships Registry Certificates (Patent) and Radio Station License issued by the Administration are considered valid for three (3) months, from its issue date.
- G. Soft copy of Exemption certificates and Minimum Safe Manning Certificates for MODU/MOU issued by the Administration are considered valid for three (3) months, from its issue date.
- H. The postponement/Extension of the inspection of the outside ships' bottom will continue to be processed on a case by case basis as per the guidelines provided in Merchant Marine Circular No.204.
3. Ship owners/ operators and masters of Panama flagged ships are advised to be guided by above.
4. **This Technical Circular supersedes and revokes our earlier Technical Circular No. 036/2020 dated 03 April 2020.**

Enclosure:

Panama Merchant Marine Notice No. –MMN- 07/2020 (Rev.-May 2020).

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**AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ
(PANAMÁ MARITIME AUTHORITY)
DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE
(GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE)
DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO
(DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE)**

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**Merchant Marine Notice
COVID-19 Request for Postponement- Extension of Statutory Certification & Services**

No.: MMN-07/2020

March, 2020.

This Merchant Marine Notice has the purpose to inform all ships' owners/operators, Recognized Organizations and other interested parties on how to proceed in case of request for postponement-extension of statutory certification & services.

As the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus a pandemic, it is vital that all governments remind that around 90% of global trade is transported by commercial shipping, which moves the world's food, energy and commercial goods (among them medical supplies).

It is our intention to contribute to keep maritime trade moving in this time of global crisis, in particular by facilitating the postponement-extension of all statutory certification, all survey services including ISM Code/ISPS Code audits and inspections related to MLC, 2006, in addition this is also applicable to Annual Safety Inspection (ASI) established by our flag, this exceptional measures are taken essentially in response to the current shut-downs, lock downs, and travel restrictions, implemented by several States worldwide.

The Panama Maritime Authority, committed to preserve the safety on board and the prevention of oil pollution is allowing its Recognized Organizations to:

1. Postpone/Extend all surveys, audits and inspections for a period of three (3) months, subject to a subsequent revalidation or reinstatement of the correspondent certificate, therefore:
 - a. The RO shall ensure that all statutory certificates remain valid using remote surveys or visits whenever is possible. However, in those cases that a remote survey or visits are not possible to be carried out, the RO is authorized to maintain the validity of the statutory certificate for the grace period aforementioned. All records justifying each case according to the circumstances shall be kept and remain available to any Port State Control Authority and as well as this Administration.

It is highly requested the cooperation and prompt communication to this Administration in case of facing any difficulty or inconveniences during this time,

to enabling us to act as quick as possible with the required assistance (see contacts table below).

2. Annual services of life saving appliances, navigation and firefighting equipment's with due date between March and May 2020, are allowed for an immediate extension valid for one (1) month subject to the agreement of the Recognized Organization. Extensions required for a longer period will be granted on a case by case basis, for the maximum period of three (3) months provided that supporting evidence of each case is presented to extensions@segumar.com or the [Segumar Office of your convenience](#) (see contacts table below).
3. Ship-owners/operators of those ships currently holding a Conditional Certificate related to a deficiency or damage onboard, shall contact us if the necessary malfunction, repair or administrative related matter is not possible to rectify, carry out or be provided; an email along with supporting evidence of each case shall be sent to conditionals@segumar.com or the [Segumar Office of your convenience](#) (see contacts table below). Please make sure the Recognized Organization responsible to issue the correspondent certificates is agree with the conditions on board.
4. The validity of all statutory certificates (except for Conditional Certificates) expiring between March and May 2020 are extended exceptionally for three (3) months, including among them:
 - a. Maritime Labour Certificate (MLC, 2006)
 - b. Safety Management Certificate (SMC)
 - c. Document of Compliance (DOC)
 - d. International Tonnage Certificate (ITC-69)
 - e. International Ballast Water Management Certificate (IBWMC)
 - f. Exemption Certificates
 - g. Certificate of Registry (Patente)
 - h. Radio License
5. For ISPS authorization you should apply through the E-segumar platform to postpone the verification for three (3) months through the following website link: <http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates>. To more information please, refer to paragraph 9 in our Merchant Marine Notice MMN-002/2020, posted on March 24, 2020.
6. Color copy of original signed Ships Registry Certificates (Patent) and Radio Station License issued by this Administration are considered valid for three (3) months, from its issue date. However, from 14 April 2020 these documents are issued in electronic form. Please contact cvaldes@amp.gob.pa and jmarauz@amp.gob.pa in case of assistance is required.

7. Soft copy Exemption Certificates and Minimum Safe Manning Certificates for MODU/MOU issued by this Administration are considered valid for three (3) months, from the certificate issue date.
8. The postponement/Extension of the inspection of the outside ships' bottom will continue to be processed on a case by case basis. Please follow the guidelines provided in our Merchant Marine Circular No.204.
9. The following table provides the contact email addresses of our Segumar offices posted around the world:

Americas	
SEGUMAR Panama	extensions@segumar.com , conditionals@segumar.com , authorizations@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Miami	segumar.miami@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Houston	offshore@segumar.com
Asia	
SEGUMAR Tokyo	segumar@panaconsul-tokyo.com
SEGUMAR Imabari	segumar.imabari@segumar.com rchacon@segumarimabari.jp
SEGUMAR Seoul	segumarseoul@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Busan	segumarbusan@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Singapore	segumar.sg@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Shanghai	segumar.shanghai@segumar.com
SEGUMAR Manila	segumar.manila@segumar.com
Europe	
SEGUMAR Piraeus	segumarpg@segumar.com ;
SEGUMAR Istanbul	segumarist@segumar.com
SEGUMAR London	segumar.uk@segumar.com

Middle East	
SEGUMAR Dubai	segumar.dubai@segumar.com

10. The implementation of these instructions is due to the urgency related to Covid-19. However, as soon as the crises overcome, and restrictions imposed by each State have raised, we will return to our regular procedures, and a review of the new mechanisms implemented will take place.

We recommend all interested parties to continue monitoring the situation by consulting the Marine Notices and procedures communicated by the WHO, the IMO, and each Recognized Organization.

May, 2020 – Deleted of letter (d) of paragraph 4 and changed of numerical sequence of paragraph 8 to 5 regarding ISPS certification.

April, 2020 – paragraphs 2, 3, and 5 amended, letters h) and i) added in paragraph 4.

April, 2020 – In point 1, content in letter a) amended and content in letter b) deleted; Point 4 letter h) deleted due to ambiguity; point 5 split in 5) original signed and 6) soft copy of MSMC for MODU/MOU added, next points renumbered and last note add WHO and IMO.

March, 2020.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:

**Maritime Ship Security Department
Directorate General of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority**

**Phone: (507) 501 5348
(507) 501 5350**

**E-mail: rberrocal@segumar.com
deputychief@segumar.com**