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Pages: (Total) 2

Subject: New Panama Regulation on Ship Security Alert System

Refer to: Ship Owners, Operators, all agents & Surveyors

Panama Maritime Circular MMC-133 has been revised to update instructions and procedures on the Ship Security Alert System (SSAS) according to SOLAS 74, Chapter XI-2 Reg. 6, as amended.

All vessels above 500 GT shall be provided with a Ship Security Alert System (SSAS), which shall be capable to transmit a security alert to a designated, competent authority when activated in an emergency situation. Any deficiency relating to the SSAS is a failure of compliance with the ISPS and the ISM Code.

You must notify the RSO prior to installing SSAS equipment. In all cases, the RO responsible for the issuance of the Safety Radio Certificate shall be responsible for the initial installation, inspection and testing of the SSAS by an approved radio technician.

The Company and the Company Security officer (CSO) are requested to continuously verify that the SSAS equipment on board the vessels have been correctly set to send the security alert or test messages to Panama Maritime Authority (PMA).

The amendments

As from 01/01/2018 the annual SSAS TEST will be received by the PMA through the use of an electronic platform for the Supply and Operation of the Ship Identification and Monitoring System.

From 30/11/2017 all CSOs that already send the Validation Form described in MMC-353 or apply through the CSO Endorsement online application by the website link: <http://certificates.amp.gob.pa/certificates> will receive an email from info@panama-ssas.com with their credentials and the instructions. PMA will be receiving the Validation Form up to 15/12/2017. After this date, CSOs are required to make the endorsements or revalidate the information through the online application.

Ship Owners/ Managers/ Operators of vessels flying Panama Flag, through the CSOs have the responsibility to schedule, through the platform, the annual tests of SSAS TEST in a period no longer than twelve (12) months and the confirmation message of the annual SSAS TEST must be retained on board.

For ships entering the Panama Flag after 01/01/2018, the first SSAS TEST must be scheduled through the use of the new platform, which must be verified by their RSO during the initial verification and from that date onwards, every twelve (12) months. In those cases, it is required that the CSO designed by the Company Operator already has the Declaration of Company Security Officer duly endorsement by PMA, as per MMC-206, in order to schedule the first SSAS TEST.

Only one annual SSAS TEST is mandatory. In case of vessels that perform more than one test and require a flag confirmation they should not schedule it through the platform, in those cases they also have to use the below SSAS TEST message information and send an email directly to threat@amp.gob.pa.



All the vessels must keep the email address threat@amp.gob.pa (main) in their SSAS terminal. The use of authorizations@segumar.com is optional.

Attached you may find the full Panama Maritime Authority MMC-133, MMC-353 & CSO Validation-Form.

[Act now](#)

Ship Owners/ Managers/ Operators of vessels flying Panama Flag are required to follow above requirements on board their vessels.

Best regards

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