

Port State Control – Information Notice No. 3 of 2012

The purpose of this notice is to advise shipowners, operators, managers and Masters of Isle of Man registered ships of the following;

Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) – Fire Safety Systems Arrangements

The Isle of Man Ship Registry gives advance notice of the forthcoming CIC on fire safety systems which commences on the 1st September 2012 and will be enforced until the 30th November 2012. The CIC will be carried out jointly by the Paris and Tokyo MoU Regions on Port State Control, other MoUs have yet to notify their intentions as to whether they will also carry out a similar exercise during the same period.

The purpose of the CIC is to ensure compliance with SOLAS Chapter II-2 on Construction – fire protection, fire detection and fire extinction of the Annex to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) came into force on 1 July 2002. This chapter applies to all ships, irrespective of type, constructed before, on or after this date. Existing ships shall comply with the requirements of the Convention and regulations as appropriate.

In practice the CIC will mean that during regular port state control inspections, the fire safety arrangements, maintenance records and other applicable documentation will be verified in more detail for compliance with SOLAS Chapter II-2

The objective of the CIC is to ensure;

- There is compliance with the requirements of the SOLAS convention as applicable;
- The fire fighting equipment is readily available and maintained at all times;
- The Master, officers and crew are familiar with equipment and have received training in carrying out their duties, and
- To raise awareness of fire safety related issues.

Port State control officers (PSCOs) will be using a list of 12 selected items (see attached MoU documents for reference) to verify critical areas for the shipboard fire safety systems, some of which are related to documentation, equipment and crew familiarisation.

Where deficiencies are identified, actions by the attending PSCOs may vary from recording a deficiency, to instructing the Master to rectify the deficiency within a certain period, to detaining the ship until serious deficiencies have been rectified.

Mark Bregazzi
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