

# Isle of Man Ship Registry Registry Advice Notice

## Tonnage and Measurement of Ships under 24m Overall Length

Ref. RAN 03 (Rev.4)  
Issued 02/10/2024

### **1. Introduction**

Prior to registry, all ships under 24m overall length (excluding ships to be registered on the small ships register and fishing vessels) must be surveyed and issued with a 'Certificate of Survey (Tonnage Measurement)' specifying vessel tonnage in accordance with Part III of the Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) Regulations 1998.

Please note that tonnage and measurement for Manx ships 24 metres or over other than fishing vessels is covered in [RAN 04](#).

Tonnage and measurement for fishing vessels is covered in [RAN 10](#).

### **2. Survey/Certification**

Survey and Certification must be completed by a Certifying Authority given in section 3.

Following initial survey and issuance of the certificate of survey there are no requirements for on-going survey in relation to tonnage.

If any changes are made in the arrangement, construction, capacity, use of spaces, total number of passengers the ship is permitted to carry under the terms of the passenger certificate, assigned load line or permitted draught of the ship that cause a change in tonnage, the existing measurement will cease to be valid. The certificate of survey should be returned to the issuing authority for cancellation and arrangements made for re-measurement of the vessel.

Changes to a vessels name or port of registry, whilst having no effect on tonnage, will require the existing certificate of survey to be amended or re-issued denoting the changes by a certifying authority. The Ship Registry should be contacted prior to proceeding with any changes to a vessels name or port of registry.

### **3. Certifying Authorities**

Certifying authorities authorised to undertake tonnage measurement for all ships are given in [MSN 020](#).

The Ship Registry will also accept tonnage measurements undertaken by the following listed authorities for vessels under 24m in length overall:



International Institute of Marine Surveying  
Murrills House  
48 East Street  
Portchester  
PO16 9XS  
Tel: +44 (0) 23 9238 5223  
[ca@iims.org.uk](mailto:ca@iims.org.uk)

MECAL Ltd  
Office Suite 4, Endeavour House  
Oceansgate  
Devonport  
Plymouth  
PL1 4RW  
[admin@mecal.co.uk](mailto:admin@mecal.co.uk)

Royal Yachting Association  
RYA House  
Ensign Way  
Hamble  
Southampton  
SO31 4YA  
Tel: +44 (0) 23 8060 4100  
[scvcert@rya.org.uk](mailto:scvcert@rya.org.uk)

SCMS  
Ground Floor  
Unit 5, Prospect House  
7 Ocean Way  
Southampton  
SO14 3TJ  
Tel: +44 (0) 23 8001 6494  
[sec@scmshq.org](mailto:sec@scmshq.org)

Yacht Designers & Surveyors Association  
The Glass Works  
3b Penns Road  
Petersfield  
Hampshire  
GU32 2EW  
Tel: +44 (0) 17 3071 0425  
[Tonnage@ybdsa.co.uk](mailto:Tonnage@ybdsa.co.uk)

*Please note - The Isle of Man Ship Registry cannot give legal advice. Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel. You should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.*

