

Isle of Man Ship Registry Registry Advice Notice



Tonnage and Measurement of Ships $\geq 24\text{m}$

Ref. RAN 04 (Rev.2)
Issued 26/10/21

1. Introduction

Prior to registry, every ship of 24m or over must be surveyed and its tonnage ascertained in accordance with the International Convention on the Tonnage Measurement of Ships (ITC69'). An International Tonnage Certificate (ITC) is issued giving the details of the ship's tonnage and build and other descriptive particulars required for registration. This must be issued by a Certifying Authority stated in Section 4 of this notice.

Please note that tonnage and measurement for Manx ships of less than 24 metres in length other than fishing vessels is covered in [RAN 03](#)

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

2. Survey/Certification

Following the initial survey and issuance of the ITC, there are no requirements for ongoing survey once the particulars of a vessel have been established.

2.1 Changes to Tonnage as a Result of Compliance with new Non-Tonnage Regulations

Many vessels are currently being retrofitted with Ballast Water Treatment Systems or Exhaust Gas Treatment Systems as a means to comply with international regulations. In such cases, tonnage must be re-measured following any changes to enclosed spaces which may occur as a result.

If these changes do not constitute an increase or decrease of more than 1% of the gross tonnage, the owner of the vessel may elect to either;

- a) Note the change as an annotation on the current ITC; or
- b) Request a new ITC be issued noting the change;

In either case the ITC shall retain the existing tonnage figures.

If any change, or the cumulative effects of multiple changes exceed more than 1% increase or decrease of the gross tonnage stated on the ITC, then the tonnage shall be recalculated and the new figure should be used on the Tonnage Certificate and all other Convention certificates

2.2 Change of Flag/Owner/Vessel Particulars

Upon first registration with the Ship Registry (i.e. a change of flag) a new ITC is required to be issued to the vessel.

If the owner of an existing vessel changes and the owner chooses to remain with the IOM Ship Registry there is no need for a new ITC to be issued.



Changes to vessel particulars that are not considered to affect tonnage (e.g. vessel name) do not require re-measurement but may require a new certificate to be issued.

3. Gross/Net Tonnage

The International Tonnage Certificate will state the gross and net tonnage of the vessel. These are defined as follows:

- Gross Tonnage - the measure of the overall size of a ship determined in accordance with the provisions of ITC69
- Net Tonnage - the measure of the useful capacity of a ship determined in accordance with the ITC69

4. Certifying Authorities

Please refer to [MSN 020](#) for certifying authorities authorised to undertake Tonnage Measurement.

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.

