



The Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration Procedure for the Issuance of License for Flag State Surveyors Conducting Flag State Inspections on Seychelles Registered Foreign Going Vessels

Merchant Shipping Notice No. 02/2018

References: (a) Merchant Shipping Act 1995 and amendments of 2014

(b) SMSA Quality Manual

(c) IMO mandatory Instruments Implementation Code (III Code)

Background

Flag State Inspections (FSI) are used by Flag States to ensure satisfactory standards are being maintained on board vessels flying their flag. Flag State inspections are carried out by approved flag State inspectors referred to as Flag State Surveyors. As per the Implementation of International Instruments III Code, paragraph 28-32; III Code, paragraph 35; III Code, paragraph 36; III Code, paragraph 37 , International Maritime Organization (IMO) Member States are required to have a documented system that provides for qualification of flag State surveyors and continuous updating of their knowledge. The qualifications of the flag State surveyors shall encompass all the required areas of expertise. In line with this, the Seychelles Maritime Safety Administration (SMSA) has put in place the following procedures to ensure qualified personnel are assigned as Flag State surveyors..

Purpose

This Merchant Shipping Notice (MSN) documents the procedure to be followed by SMSA in the appointment of flag State Surveyors to conduct flag State inspection responsibilities that is imposed up on the country as per the various IMO instruments that have been ratified or acceded to by Seychelles.

Scope

This MSN applies to all flag State inspections to be conducted on foreign going vessels.

I. General

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Merchant Shipping Notice No. 02/2018

1. Flag State inspections carried out on behalf of SMSA shall be conducted by qualified and approved persons to conduct flag State inspection duties as per international requirements.
2. The Administration shall issue a license for all flag State surveyors meeting the criteria enumerated in Part II of this procedure.
3. All Flag State surveyors licensed by the Administration shall hold identification cards.

II. Components of Flag State Inspections

4. Flag State Inspections include, but not limited to:-
 - a) verification of statutory documentation;
 - b) a general examination of the vessels structure , machinery and equipment , lifesaving appliances and safety equipment;
 - c) verification of compliance with all applicable rules and regulations, national requirements as well as IMO , WHO and ILO instruments;
 - d) Marine accident and incident investigations; and
 - e) Pre- port State inspection.

III. Required Knowledge, Experience, Skills and Attributes to obtain a license for Flag State surveyor for Vessels engaged in international voyages.

5. appropriate qualifications from a marine or nautical institution and relevant seagoing experience as a certificated ship's officer holding or having held a valid management level certificate of competency and having maintained their technical knowledge of ships and their operation since gaining their certificate of competency;
6. Personnel qualified under paragraph 5 and shall serve for a period of not less than three years at sea as an officer in the deck or engine department;



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Merchant Shipping Notice No. 02/2018

7. Personnel qualified under paragraph 5 should have worked in a relevant capacity for at least three year;.
8. Shall possess appropriate practical and theoretical knowledge of ships, their operation and the provisions of the relevant national and international instruments necessary to perform their duties as flag State surveyors obtained through documented training programmes;
9. Previous relevant experience in the field of expertise is recommended to be considered an advantage; in case of no previous experience, the Administration should provide appropriate field training.
10. Basic training in Port State Control Inspection and maritime auditing from an internationally approved training institutes ;
11. (1) **The surveyor shall also take the following theoretical and practical trainings on:-**
 - a) activity and functions of IMO and maritime Administrations;
 - b) activity and functions of classification societies;
 - c) classification of ships;
 - d) types of certificates and reports issued on completion of class and statutory surveys;
 - e) quality management system;
 - f) personal safety regulations; and(2) Practical training shall be commensurate with the complexity of the survey (types or categories of surveys, types of ships and their operation, specific subjects (hull, machinery, and electrical engineering)) obtained through documented training programme and shall be carried out under the supervision of a tutor.
12. The surveyor shall also possess :-
 - a) sound knowledge of Maritime Legislations and IMO Conventions;
 - b) Proven ability to perform collaboratively within the management team which includes such diverse disciplines as standards & compliance;



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- c) Proven ability to undertake research and analysis on Flag State Inspection issues ; and
- d) Well-developed written and oral communication skills, interpersonal skills, and the ability to communicate effectively.

IV. Duties of Flag State inspectors/ surveyors

13. All SMSA approved Flag State inspectors/ surveyors shall carry an identification card issued by the Administration when conducting Flag State inspections.
14. All SMSA approved flag State Surveyors are required to periodically update their knowledge.
15. All SMSA approved flag State Surveyors are required to submit the flag State inspection report to the Director of SMSA within five working days upon the completion of the inspection.
16. Notwithstanding paragraph 15, reports involving marine accident investigations and detainable deficiencies shall be reported immediately up on the findings of such occurrences or causes.

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