

IAMSA BUREAU OF SHIPPING LLC



TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

TO: Owners, surveyors, agents

SUBJECT: IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner ID Number – IMO Resolution MSC 160(78)

PURPOSE: Casualty Investigations of Panamanian flagged vessels

APPLICATION: 1 January 2009

INTRODUCTION:

1.0 The purpose of this circular is to inform about the requirement of IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner scheme, under SOLAS Chapter XI-1, Regulation 3-1.

This regulation enters in force on **1st January 2009** and requires the following:

- a) Companies and Register Owners managing ships of GT 100 upward, engaged on International Voyages must to obtain an IMO UNIQUE COMPANY and REGISTER OWNER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.
- b) The IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner ID Number, will be required to be inserted on the following documents:
 - The Interim Document of Compliance
 - The Interim Safety Management Certificate
 - The Full Term Documents of Compliance
 - The Full Term Safety Management Certificate
 - Continuous Synopsis Record
 - The Interim International Ship Security Certificate and
 - The Full Term International Ship Security Certificates

2.0 DEFINITIONS

- a) COMPANY: has the same meaning and definition as in SOLAS Regulation IX/ I and the ISM Code.
- b) REGISTERES OWNER: Is the owner specified in a Ship's Certificate of Registry or "Patente" issued by the Flag Administration.

3.0 ABOUT IMO COMPANY UNIQUE NUMBERING SCHEME:

- The IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Numbering Scheme, applies to Companies and Owners who own or manage ships of 100 GT and above engaged in International Voyages.
- This ID number is issued by Lloyd's Register – Fairplay (LR-F), without charge. The number when issued is unique to the Company and/or Registered Owner, and remains unchanged. Only one IMO number is issued to a Company, even if the same Company is both owner and manager.
- The IMO ID number begins with the letters "IMO" followed by either "Company" or "Registered Owner" and seven digits assigned by LR-F.
- Lloyd's Register – Fairplay (LR-F) manages the IMO numbering scheme, and maintains records, full history and trails of changes in Companies and Registered Owners information.
- When a company changes its name the IMO ID number remains the same. When Companies merge, the IMO number of the larger Company will be assigned to the newly formed entity. The number of the smaller Company is frozen, and will not be re-used.
- Upon transfer of a Company and / or Registered Owner's ship from one Flag to another, the Company's IMO number remains unchanged. The number also remains unchanged un the event that a Company or Owner sells, scraps, or otherwise disposes of its ship(s), even though it may not re-engage in any other ship(s) operation or ownership.
- Original information about Company and/or Registered Owner is collected by the Flag Administration at the time of registration. It is the same information as that routinely collected by Administrations as part of their registration process, namely:
 - a) Company / registered owner name-style
 - b) Country / state of incorporation (registration)
 - c) Date of incorporation; and
 - d) Full address (optional address) and contact details.

4.0 HOW TO OBTAIN IMO UNIQUE NUMBER

The IMO Company ID number can be obtained FREE OF CHARGE by contacting Lloyd's Register Fairplay (LR-F) at the following address or website:

Lloyds Register – Fairplay
Lombard House
3 Princess Way, Redhill
Surrey, RH1 1UO, UK
Tel 44 1737 379060
Fax 44 1737 379040

www.imonumbers.lrfairplay.com
owners-data-feedback@lrfairplay.com

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