

Type of newsletter: **STATUTORY NEWSLETTER, Response to pandemic outbreak of COVID-19**  
Number: **24.04.2020, revision 1**

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**APPLICATION:**

Type of ships: -  
Flag(s): -

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**GENERAL INFORMATION ON MEASURES IN  
RESPONSE TO PANDEMIC OUTBREAK OF COVID-19**

**(A) Measures taken by CRS**

In order to ensure business continuity in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, and by taking into account instructions and recommendations by WHO and national administrations with regard to protection of health of its employees and clients, CRS is making efforts to provide continuous support to its clients experiencing the need for postponements or extensions of services / surveys / audits due to "force majeure".

CRS imposed the following interim measures during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak:

- (i) CRS will continue to strive to ensure the normal course of business, including communication by telephone, e-mail or video conference;
- (ii) visits to the CRS Head Office, as well as to all CRS regional offices, are either restricted, or are allowed under special agreement;
- (iii) it is recommended that in the current period meetings with clients should be conducted through videoconference. Video conferencing can be arranged with CRS representatives by appointment; with CRS asking for your kind understanding and cooperation.

However, CRS is ready to offer applicable alternative measures such as extension of validity of class or statutory certificates / postponement of surveys / audits, or remote surveys / audits, subject to prior approval of the Flag state administration.

With regard to extension of validity of certificate of class and/or postponement of class related surveys CRS will follow measures taken by IACS and therefore please do not hesitate to contact CRS Head office for more details (Ships in service).

Inquiries regarding services / surveys / audits are handled by the following CRS departments:

- Ships in service / MLC Certification / statutory certification – Fleet services division: [fleet.services@crs.hr](mailto:fleet.services@crs.hr)
- Surveys of ships / ISM / ISPS Certification – Branch offices network division: [csys@crs.hr](mailto:csys@crs.hr)
- Survey during construction – Coordination division: [damir.jelicic@crs.hr](mailto:damir.jelicic@crs.hr)
- Plan approval – Construction division: [neven.jurasic@crs.hr](mailto:neven.jurasic@crs.hr) / [kruno.feric@crs.hr](mailto:kruno.feric@crs.hr)
- Certification of manufacturers / service suppliers / products – Construction division: [neven.jurasic@crs.hr](mailto:neven.jurasic@crs.hr) / [kruno.feric@crs.hr](mailto:kruno.feric@crs.hr)
- Transfer of class – Coordination division: [nenad.vulic@crs.hr](mailto:nenad.vulic@crs.hr)

Urgent enquiry phone contacts are available at: <http://www.crs.hr/en-us/contact.aspx>

When applying for **survey of the ship** the following will be taken into account:

- (i) recent itinerary of the ship;
- (ii) possible recent crew changes / crew rotation;
- (iii) information on specific recommendations given by IMO and WHO;
- (iv) information on measures imposed by the Company and that are to be noted or implemented by CRS surveyors when attending on board ship;
- (v) information on foreseen place of survey and availability of CRS surveyors within the area;
- (vi) global and local travelling / access / quarantine restrictions.

Notwithstanding the above, the most important information to be provided by the Company is whether any of crew members are being diagnosed as positive to COVID-19.

After review of above information you will be advised whether physical on board attendance of CRS surveyors could be arranged.

Any further inquiries should be forwarded to:

[Surveys of ships / ISM / ISPS Certification – Branch offices network division: [csys@crs.hr](mailto:csys@crs.hr)]

In the case of **audits** specific instructions can be obtained from:

[Surveys of ships / ISM / ISPS Certification – Branch offices network division: [csys@crs.hr](mailto:csys@crs.hr)]

[MLC Certification– Fleet services division: [fleet.services@crs.hr](mailto:fleet.services@crs.hr)]

In the case of **certification of manufacturers / service suppliers / products** specific instructions can be obtained from:

[Construction division: [neven.juriscic@crs.hr](mailto:neven.juriscic@crs.hr) / [kruno.feric@crs.hr](mailto:kruno.feric@crs.hr)]

## **(B) Information on circulars issued by various Flag state administrations**

Majority of Flag state administrations have issued various specific circulars / notices including specific instructions in cases where surveys or audits according to the requirements of SOLAS 74, LLC 66, MARPOL 73/78 and ISM / ISPS or MLC 2006 cannot be carried out by their due dates due to Coronavirus disease pandemic.

Such circulars / notices are regularly updated and are available on web site of each Flag state administration. CRS is closely and frequently monitoring such updates and is offering assistance to the clients when approaching Flag state administration with the request for postponement of survey or extension of the validity of statutory certificates.

List of currently published and valid circulars / notices is attached (for updates refer to website of specific Flag state):

<b>Bahamas</b>	Technical alert 20-03, v. 4.4 – Novel Coronavirus Technical alert 20-04, v. 5.1 – COVID-19, Changes to BMA working hours
<b>Comoros</b>	Circular 20 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Guidance relating to the certification of seafarers Circular 21 - Novel Coronavirus guidance Circular 24 (rev. 2) - Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Guidance to the postponement / extension of statutory certification & services Circular – Coronavirus (COVID-19) – WHO Guidance to Promote Public Health Measures on Cargo and Fishing Vessels (IMO Circular Letter No. 4204/Add.28)
<b>Croatia</b>	CIRC-MMPI-005/2020 – COVID-19 – Extension of the validity of ship certificates Guidelines for adoption of extraordinary measures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic
<b>Cyprus</b>	Circular 03/2020, Novel Coronavirus – Precautions to be taken to minimise risks to seafarers and others on board ships Circular 05/2020, Coronavirus Disease “COVID-19” - Updates on precautions to be taken to minimise risks to seafarers, passengers and others on board ships Circular 06/2020, Special arrangements by the Shipping Deputy Ministry for the provision of services during COVID-19 outbreak Circular 07/2020, EU Commission Interpretative Guidelines on EU passenger rights regulations in the context of the developing situation with COVID-19 Circular 08/2020, Urgent Provisional Measures for the operation of Cyprus ships during the COVID-19 outbreak Circular 17/2020, Revised procedure for facilitating crew changes within the framework of the gradual relaxation of the Restrictive Measures applicable during the COVID19 Pandemic Circular 18/2020, Urgent Provisional Measures for the operation of Cyprus ships during the Covid-19 outbreak

<b>Liberia</b>	<p>Marine Advisory 04/2020, Novel Coronavirus Guidance</p> <p>Marine Advisory 07/2020-2, Guidance to Assist with Impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on Ship Operations</p> <p>Marine Advisory 08/2020, Consideration for managing Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases / outbreaks on board ships</p> <p>Marine Advisory 10/2020, Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance – Extended application</p> <p>Marine Advisory 11/2020-2, Implementation of IMO Circular Letter No.4204/Add.1: COVID-19 – Implementation and enforcement of relevant IMO instruments</p> <p>Marine Advisory 14/2020, Fact Sheet on the Provision of Humanitarian Assistance and Trade to Combat COVID-19</p> <p>Marine Advisory 16/2020, Guidance to Assist Seafarers with Possible Crew Health Concerns due to COVID-19</p> <p>Marine Advisory 17/2020, Guidance on Exception of Goal Based Standard (GBS) Requirements for Newly Constructed Vessels suffering delays due to COVID-19</p> <p>Marine Advisory 21/2020, Guidance to Assist with Impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) on Crew Documentation</p> <p>Marine Advisory 23/2020, Postponement of annual leave with pay and maximum period of shipboard service for seafarers during Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic</p> <p>Marine Advisory 24/2020, Requirements for crew change for cargo ships in the port of Singapore and for ship's crew visiting Singapore waters to minimize the risk of community spread of COVID-19 in Singapore</p> <p>Marine Advisory 25/2020, Requirements for crew change for cargo ships in the port of Hong Kong and for ship's crew visiting Hong Kong waters to minimize the risk of community spread of COVID-19 in Hong Kong</p> <p>Marine Advisory 26/2020, Requirements for renewal of Certification Issued by Approved Training Centers during COVID disruptions</p>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	<p>CAM Circular 01/2020 – Public Health Emergency related to the Coronavirus</p> <p>CAM Circular 002/2020 – Extraordinary measures related to crew documents and ship certificates in relation to the COVID-19 Pandemic</p>
<b>Malta</b>	<p>Merchant Shipping Notice 157 – Precautionary Measures against Novel Coronavirus</p> <p>Merchant Shipping Notice 158 – Extraordinary measures resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic</p> <p>Merchant Shipping Notice 160 – Supporting Measures to Maltese Shipping Industry during COVID-19 Pandemic</p>
<b>Marshall Islands</b>	<p>MN 1-004-3, Modifications to Instrument Recordation and Acknowledgement Requirements Pursuant to Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Act, §§103-106, §108, and §203(h), in Response to the Coronavirus Disease Pandemic</p> <p>MG 1-04-1, COVID-19 Guidelines on Modifications to Instrument Recordation and Acknowledgement Requirements Pursuant to Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Act, §§103-106, §108 and §203(h) in Response to COVID19 Pandemic</p> <p>MSA 17-20, Temporary Alternative Inspection Protocols During COVID-19 Pandemic Response And Recovery</p> <p>MSA 18-20, COVID-19: Emergency Rescue Of Injured And Sick Crew Members At Chinese Ports</p> <p>MSA 24-20, Handling the validity of ship certificates due to COVID-19</p> <p>MSA 25-20, Handling ISM, ISPS and MLC 2006 due to the exceptional circumstances of COVID-19</p> <p>MSA 27-20, Coronavirus Disease Update</p>
<b>Palau</b>	<p>MC 187.1 – Handling The Validity Of Ship Certificates Due To COVID-19</p> <p>MC 184.1 – Dissemination of IMO guidance for managing COVID-19 cases on board ships</p>

<b>Panama</b>	MMN 02/2020 – Coronavirus Prevention Measures MMN 03/2020 – Coronavirus and Seafarers employment agreement and Certificates MMN 06/2020 – Coronavirus – ISPS Security level 2, press release MMN 07/2020 – COVID-19 Request for Postponement - Extension of Statutory Certification & Services MMN 16/2020 – Repatriation modalities due to COVID-19
<b>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</b>	CIRCULAR No. GEN 025, Rev. 7 - COVID-19 ADVICE FROM MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

**(C) Measures taken by IACS**

IACS, being fully committed to support the industry and flag States wherever possible, has established a COVID-19 Task Force in order to identify and assess measures that can be implemented in a coordinated fashion to help facilitate business continuity. Details on such measures are available on the following link:

<http://iacs.org.uk/covid-19/>

**(D) Measures taken by IMO**

Regularly updated IMO Circular letters containing advice for IMO Member States, seafarers and shipping related to Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic are available on the following link:

<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

**(E) Measures taken by EMSA**

EMSA compiled an overview of COVID-19 measures taken by the EU Member States, available on following link:

<http://emsa.europa.eu/news-a-press-centre/covid19.html>

**(F) Other useful links**

**World Health Organization (WHO)** - Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Weekly Epidemiological Update and Weekly Operational Update

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

**World Health Organization (WHO)** - Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships

<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/operational-considerations-for-managing-covid-19-cases-outbreak-on-board-ships>

**International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)** – Guidance for the ship operators for the protection of the health of seafarers

[https://www.ics-shipping.org/docs/default-source/resources/coronavirus-\(covid-19\)-guidance-for-ship-operators-for-the-protection-of-the-health-of-seafarers.pdf?sfvrsn=6](https://www.ics-shipping.org/docs/default-source/resources/coronavirus-(covid-19)-guidance-for-ship-operators-for-the-protection-of-the-health-of-seafarers.pdf?sfvrsn=6)

**International Labour Organization (ILO)** - Information note on maritime labour issues and coronavirus (COVID-19) - Revised version 2.0

[https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/maritime-labour-convention/WCMS\\_741024/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/standards/maritime-labour-convention/WCMS_741024/lang--en/index.htm)