



Kiribati Ship Registry

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MARINE CIRCULAR 55/2020

26 February 2026

FOR : Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers

SUBJECT : Electronic Logbook and Record Book Systems

REFERENCES :

- (a) ISO Standard 8468.
- (b) IMO Resolution MSC.86(70), adopted on 08 December 1998, Adoption of new and amended performance standards for navigational equipment.
- (c) IMO MSC/Circ.982, dated 20 December 2000, Guidelines on Ergonomic Criteria for Bridge Equipment and Layout.
- (d) IMO Resolution A.916(22), adopted on 29 November 2001, Guidelines for the recording of events related to navigation.
- (e) Kiribati Marine Circular 42/2018, Guidance on entry of Official Log Book
- (f) MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3/Rev.3, dated 04 April 2025, Guidelines on Maritime Cyber Risk Management
- (g) IMO Resolution MEPC.312(74), adopted on 17 May 2019, Guidelines for the use of electronic records under MARPOL.
- (h) STCW Convention, Regulation I/14.1.5

DEFINITIONS :

The following abbreviations stand for:

1. "FAL" – Facilitation Committee
2. "IMO" – International Maritime Organization
3. "ISM" – International Safety Management (Code)
4. "ISO" - International Standards Organization
5. "MARPOL" – International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
6. "MEPC" – Marine Environment Protection Committee
7. "MSC" – Maritime Safety Committee
8. "RO" – Recognized Organization as defined by MSC.349(92)/MEPC.237(65)
9. "SOLAS" – International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended
10. "STCW" – International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, as amended
11. "VDR" – Voyage Data Recorder

The term "Administration" shall mean the Kiribati Ship Registry.

APPLICATION:

This circular applies to all shipowner/operators with the intention to install electronic logbook and record books systems on board Kiribati flagged vessels.

PURPOSE :

This circular provides the requirements for the use of electronic log books and record books under SOLAS and MARPOL on board Kiribati flagged vessels that are intended to keep a record of navigation and engineering activities and incidents and be able to contain sufficient detail to restore a complete record of voyages required by SOLAS as well as the recording of discharges associated with the prevention of pollution from ships required by MARPOL.

CONTENTS:

An electronic data system for recordation and retention of Log Data may be used provided that the design of the equipment and software, including future updates, shall be such as to enable recording of information required by the applicable Conventions (SOLAS, MARPOL etc.) and the IMO Resolution A.916(22) (Guidelines for the Recording of Events Related to Navigation) and

the system complies with the requirements and guidelines set by this Administration and/or IMO Resolutions.

The Administration will delegate the certification works of electronic systems to our authorized ROs (<https://kiribaship.com/recognizedorganization>) and will also accept electronic systems approved by other Administrations.

1. REQUIREMENTS:

Electronic Logbook and Record Book Systems, where the documentation requirements have been satisfied, may be applied when the following requirements are fulfilled in each case:

- 1.1. The workstation on the bridge where the deck logbook is available shall be designed in accordance with the principles given in MSC/Circ.982 and ISO Standard 8468.
- 1.2. Presentation of the deck logbook shall follow the requirements stipulated in Resolution MSC.86(70) and MSC/Circ.982/5.3.4.
- 1.3. Lighting of display and keyboard for the deck logbook shall follow the requirements stipulated in MSC/Circ.982/5.3.6 or ISO Standard 8468 para 6.3.4.
- 1.4. The installation of the equipment for the deck logbook shall not give rise to electromagnetic interference which will affect the proper function of navigational systems and equipment on board.
- 1.5. If technically feasible, all data entered into the electronic logbook system shall automatically be copied onto the vessel's VDR, if the vessel is so equipped.
- 1.6. All electronic records under MARPOL shall follow the requirements stipulated in Resolution MEPC.312(74).
- 1.7. The electronic log data system software shall provide verifiable security from tampering and inappropriate revisions of data along with back-up arrangements for both the system (means of recording log data) and the log data itself, once recorded.
- 1.8. The vessel shall implement the IMO MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3/Rev.3 "Guidelines on Maritime Cyber Risk Management", to safeguard the vessel from current and emerging cyber threats and vulnerabilities.

2. DOCUMENTATION:

The following documentation shall be carried on board and be presented upon request during Port State Control inspection or other authorized vessel inspections:

- 2.1. A declaration of MARPOL electronic record book shall be issued by the RO on behalf of the Administration for any electronic system deemed to meet the criteria stipulated in Resolution MEPC.312(74).
- 2.2. A declaration from the owner/operator that the officers on board have received training in accordance with STCW Convention, Regulation I/14.1.5, and that routines for safekeeping of the logbooks are implemented in the ship's ISM system.
- 2.3. For the purpose of meeting the intent of the logbook requirement to be maintained in bound volumes, Administration shall accept a hard copy (printout) of each day's entry of Log Data, duly signed and dated by the Master or Officer designated by the Master to make such entries, and retained in monthly binders onboard the ship for the duration as specified below:
 - 2.3.1. The logs shall be forwarded to the shipowner and/or operator at the termination of each voyage, or not less frequently than semi-annually.
 - 2.3.2. All such logs shall be retained for a period of at least two (2) years from the date of receipt, and in the event of a casualty occurring during a voyage covered by such logbooks, they shall be retained for so long as instructed by the Administration.

For further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Administration at: technical@kiribaship.com.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Kiribati Ship Registry