



Kiribati Ship Registry

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MARINE CIRCULAR 51/2020

19 December 2022

TO : Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Charterers

SUBJECT : IMO Unique Identification Number Scheme for Ship, Company and Registered Owner

REFERENCES:

- (a) IMO Resolution A.1117(30) – IMO ship identification number scheme, 18 December 2017
- (b) IMO Circular Letter No.1886/Rev.7 – Implementation of resolution A.1117(30) – IMO ship identification number scheme, 28 November 2022
- (c) IMO Resolution MSC.160(78) – Adoption of the IMO unique company and registered owner identification number scheme, 20 May 2004
- (d) IMO Circular Letter No.2554/Rev.3 – Implementation of IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme (resolution MSC.160(78)), 4 March 2014
- (e) SOLAS

PURPOSE

To provide a guideline for ship owners / ship managers who may be new to the IMO Unique Identification Number Scheme.

APPLICATION

This Marine Circular applies to all ship owners / ship managers / charterers of Kiribati flagged vessels that are 100 GT and above (measured in accordance to the International Convention on the Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969).

CONTENT

1. Application to Ship

- 1.1. The IMO ship identification number (identification number) is made of the three letters "IMO" in front of the seven digits of the Lloyd's Register (LR) Number and shipbuilders/shipowners are encouraged to provide details of all new orders to S&P Global Market Intelligence (formerly known as IHS Markit, Maritime & Trade (IHS M&T) or IHS Fairplay (IHS-F)) to facilitate the assignment of identification numbers at the earliest opportunity.
- 1.2. Following the adoption of a new SOLAS chapter XI by the 1994 SOLAS Conference (in particular regulation 3 thereof, which corresponds now to regulation XI-1/3), the implementation of the scheme became mandatory for all passenger ships of 100 GT and upwards and to all cargo ships of 300 GT and upwards as of 1 January 1996.
- 1.3. It is also required that passenger ships of less than 100 gross tonnage, high speed passenger craft and mobile offshore drilling units covered by SOLAS regulation V/19-1 with regard to the long-range identification and tracking of ships, which entered into force on 1 January 2008, should have IMO numbers.

1.4. In support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the context of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels and the need for the identification numbers, by adoption of resolutions A.1078(28) and A.1117(30), the IMO identification number scheme was revised to allow its application to sea-going, self-propelled ships of 100 gross tonnage and above, including fishing vessels of steel and non-steel hull construction; passenger ships of less than 100 gross tonnage, high speed passenger craft and mobile offshore drilling units covered by SOLAS regulation V/19-1; and all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 metres in length overall (LOA), authorized to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State.

2. Application to Company

2.1. All Companies and Registered Owners managing ships of 500 GT and above engaged on international voyages are required to be assigned with an IMO number under the scheme which is in full force and effect since 1 January 2009. Exceptions to this requirement include:

- 2.1.1. cargo ships of less than 500 gross tonnage (GT);
- 2.1.2. ships not propelled by mechanical means;
- 2.1.3. pleasure yachts not engaged in trade (i.e., private yachts); and
- 2.1.4. fishing vessels.

2.2. This number remains unchanged upon transfer of a Company and/or Registered Owner's ship to another flag and will be included on a Company's DOC, the ship's SMC, ISSC and CSR certificates wherever the Company and/or Registered Owner's name should appear.

2.3. This Number remains unchanged, but unused, in the event a Company and/or Registered Owner sells, or otherwise disposes, of its ship(s) and does not begin operating new ship(s).

2.4. This Number remains unchanged in the event the Company and/or Registered Owner, after having sold or otherwise disposed of its ships, renews ship management at a future time.

3. Applying for Numbers

Requests can be submitted on the following website <http://imonumbers.ihs.com> or sent to S&P Global Market Intelligence, together with the information on the individual ships concerned, using the form set out in the annex of IMO Circular Letter No.1886/Rev.7, at the following address:

S&P Global Market Intelligence
5th Floor
Kingsgate
62 High Street
Redhill,
Surrey RH1 1SG
United Kingdom
Email: ship.imo@ihsmarkit.com
Tel: +44 (0)1334 328300

Should there be any difficulty in contacting S&P Global Market Intelligence, requests (including information on the ship concerned as detailed above) should be addressed to IMO at the following address IMONumbers@imo.org.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Kiribati Ship Registry