



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)**

F-265
(DCCM)
V.00



MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-258

To: Ship-owners, Ship-operators, Manufacturers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (RO's).

Subject: Authorized service providers for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear.

Reference:

- a. Resolution No. 106-OMI-209-DGMM of 18 July 2019
- b. Resolutions MSC.402(96) of 19 May 2016 and MSC.404(96)
- c. Circular MSC.1/Circ.1578 - Guidelines on Safety during Abandon Ship Drills using lifeboats
- c. MSC.1/Circ.1206 Rev.1 - Measures to Prevent Accidents with Lifeboats, excepting her annexes
- d. Resolution No. 106-60-DGMM of 30 October 2019

1. Background

- 1.1. Considering the adoption of the IMO Resolutions MSC. 404(96) of 19 May 2016, amendments to regulations III/3 "Definitions" and III/20 "Operational readiness, maintenance and inspections" to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended, and Resolution MSC.402 (96) of 19 May 2016 "Requirements for Maintenance, thorough Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and Repair of Lifeboats and Rescue Boats, Launching Appliances and Release Gear" that will take effect on the 1st of January 2020, and subsequently adopted by this Administration through the Resolution No. 106-OMI-209-DGMM of 18 July 2019.
- 1.2. Mainly based on amendment to regulation 3 where the term "Requirement for maintenance thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliance and release gear" is defined, to refer to the Resolution MSC.402(96) as "the requirements", to be followed by the service providers to perform this work.
- 1.3. Taking into account also that this Resolution MSC.402(96) revokes annex 1 to MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1 and as well as the IMO guidelines content in the MSC.1/Circ.1578 of 19 June 2017 "Guidelines on Safety during Abandon Ship Drills using Lifeboats" which supersedes the annex 2 to MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1.
- 1.4. Bearing in mind upon the entry into force of "Requirements for Maintenance, thorough Examination, Operational Testing, Overhaul and Repair of Lifeboats and Rescue Boats, Launching Appliances and Release Gear", the Interim recommendation on conditions for authorization of service providers for lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear, content in MSC.1/Circ.1277, is no longer considered to be use.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. Inform the requirements to apply for permanent authorization by this Administration and also make available the list of its authorized services providers.
- 2.2. To remind that authorized service providers must ensure that its personnel performing this work shall be certified in accordance with the IMO Resolution MSC.402. (96), for each make and type of the equipment to be worked on. Therefore makes and types of equipment, activities and the expiry date must be clearly written on the certificate issued to each of these personnel.
- 2.3. As well as to remind Companies (as defined in SOLAS regulation IX/1.2.) to ensure that maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair on board its ships is conducted in accordance with these Requirements and SOLAS regulation III/20. The Company shall establish and implement health, safety and environment (HSE) procedures covering all activities set out in these Requirements.

3. Application

- 3.1. For the purpose of this merchant marine circular application we would like to clarify the following terms:
 - 3.1.1. *Service suppliers*: means those firms providing services on behalf of the owner of a ship or a mobile offshore drilling unit, and the results of which are used by the RO in making decisions affecting the statutory certification and services, according to RO Code - Res.MSC.349(92) point 5.9.2.
 - 3.1.2. *Authorized service provider*: means an entity authorized by the Administration, according to the Resolution MSC.402(96).
 - 3.1.3. *Manufacturer*: means the original equipment manufacturer or any entity which has taken legal and legitimate responsibilities for equipment when the original equipment manufacturer no longer exists or supports the equipment, according to the Resolution MSC. 402(96).
- 3.2. Companies interested in obtain authorization by Panama Maritime Authority as Service Providers to perform the annual and five-year thorough examination, operational testing, repair and overhaul of lifeboats (including free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats and fast rescue boats and launching appliance and on-load and off-load release gear (including primary and secondary means of launching appliances for free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats, fast rescue boats and davit launched liferafts, shall comply with section 4 and 5 of this Circular in order to evaluate its compliance. These requirements are equally applied to manufactures when they are acting as authorized service providers.
- 3.3. From the 1st of January 2020 the annual and five-year thorough examination, operational testing, repair and overhaul of lifeboats (including free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats and fast rescue boats and launching appliance and on-load and off-load release gear (including primary and secondary means of launching appliances for free-fall lifeboats), rescue boats, fast rescue boats and davit launched liferafts, shall be conducted by Administration's authorized service providers.

4. Requirements for Approval as Authorized Service Providers for lifeboats, rescue boats and fast rescue boats, launching appliance and on-load and off-load release gear, and davit launched liferafts:

- 4.1. The following requirements shall be fulfilled in order to apply for Panama flag Authorization as Service Provider:
 - a) List of employment and documentation of personnel certified in accordance with a recognized national, international, or industry-standard as applicable, or a manufacturer's established certification programme.

- b) For each of its personnel employed, the Service Provider shall submit the correspondent certification issued by the manufacturer or authorized service provider for each make and type of the equipment to be worked on (including specification on level of qualification and scope of certification). In either case, the certification programmed on which the certification is based, shall comply with section 8 of the Resolution MSC. 402(96).
- c) Copy of Company's valid Quality Management System Certificate (it is recommended that QMS complies with the most current version of the ISO 9000 series), covering the minimum following aspects:
1. code of conduct for personnel involved in the relevant activity;
 2. maintenance and calibration of measuring tools and gauges;
 3. availability of sufficient tools, and in particular any specialized tools specified in the manufacturer's instructions, including portable tools as needed for work to be carried out on board ship;
 4. access to appropriate parts and accessories as specified for maintenance and repair;
 5. availability of the manufacturer's instructions for repair work involving disassembly or adjustment of on-load release mechanisms and davit winches;
 6. training programmes for personnel (In addition Company managing its own certification programme, to certify its personnel, the certification shall comply with section 8 of Resolution MSC.402(96));
 7. supervision and verification to ensure compliance with operational procedures;
 8. recording and reporting of information;
 9. job preparation; and
 10. periodic review of work process procedures, complaints, corrective actions and issuance, maintenance and control of documents.

Note: In case that the above-required certificate does not describe the scope of work indicated, a letter issued by a Certifying body shall be submitted stating that all the aspects above indicated have been covered appropriately during its quality audit.

d) Home Country Company Registry Certificate.

- 4.2. The requirements above indicated shall be submitted through a Panamanian legal representative, (application shall be submitted through a memorial form addressed to General Directorate of Merchant Marine).
- 4.3. Evaluation fee of US\$ 1000.00 (payment receipt) (set by Resolution No. 106-60-DGMM, dated October 30, 2019, and applicable from November 19, 2019). Payment should be made to Segumar "PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY" or Certified Check in case of payments made in Panama Maritime Authority central Office. Applicable fee in case of renewals is US\$ 750.00. These fees are covering the issuance of the Certificate of Approval as Authorized Service Provider issued by this Administration (valid for three years).

5. Criteria to obtain authorization from the Panama Administration as authorized service provider:

- 5.1. In addition to the above-listed documents, Service Providers located in The Republic of Panama, when applying to obtain authorization, will be subject to an initial audit carried out by this Administration, and the local requirements applicable in accordance to Panamanian Laws in force.
- 5.2. For those Service Providers situated in other countries, this Administration may authorize them, by means of: Evaluation by the Merchant Marine Technical Assessment Board, covering all documents listed in section 4, with the special consideration on 4.1 (c) with regards to their quality management certificate; the audit performed by an IACS members may be recognized provided the requirements listed in section 4.1 (c) of this Merchant Marine Circular (requirements from the Resolution MSC.402 (96)) are complied with (a statement letter or certificate evidencing full compliance will satisfy this requirement). The fee indicated in 4.3 applies in any case.

102. STAR SHIPCARE PTE., LTD.	Singapore	Dec 31, 2019																	
103. SUEZ MARINE SAFETY CO.,	Tawfik-Suez, Egypt	Jul 17, 2021																	
104. SURVISEA S.R.L.	Argentina	Jan 05, 2020																	
105. SURVITEC SURVIVAL CRAFT LTD,	United Kingdom	Feb 22, 2022																	
106. SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL INC.	Louisiana, USA	Jun 05, 2024																	
107. SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL (U.K.) LTD.	United Kingdom	Jan 17, 2024																	
108. SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST L.L.C.	Dubai, UAE	Jan 01, 2024																	
109. SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL ASIA SDN BHD	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Jan 01, 2024																	
110. SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA PTY LTD.	Australia	Jan 01, 2024																	
111. TECHNO FIBRE MIDDLE EAST MARINE SERVICES (FZE)	Sharjah, UAE	Jul 28, 2024																	
112. TIANJIN DEEPBLUE OFFSHORE & SHIP SERVICE CO. LTD.	Tianjin, China	Sep 06, 2023																	
113. TISA LIFEBOATS & LA SERVICES S.A.	Colon, Panama	Feb 27, 2023																	
114. TRINITY MARITIME SERVICES, S.A.	Panama , Panama	Feb 22, 2022																	
115. VIKING HELLAS S.A.	Piraeus, Greece	Dec 31, 2019																	
116. VIKING LIFE – SAVING EQUIPMENT A/S	Denmark	Jul 25, 2023																	
117. WHITEFIELD MARITIME (UAE) LTD FZC.	Fujairah, UAE	Jan 01, 2024																	
118. WORLDWIDE SAFETY, S.A. (WS).	Panama City, Panama	Jul 18, 2023																	

8. Exceptional circumstances

- 8.1. Last but not the least, it is important to clarify that in cases where a manufacturer is no longer in business or no longer provides technical support, this Administration may authorize service providers listed in paragraph 7.1 of this Merchant Marine Circular only in exceptional circumstances after a comprehensive evaluation, and on a case by case basis to perform the service. This case by case authorization for service providers is based on prior authorization for the equipment and/or long-term experience and demonstrated expertise as an authorized service provider.

November 2019 – Whole text revised and amended.

August 2019 – Please read the Highlighted Important Notice at the top of this Circular. New Companies Added: “ONURSAN DECK HOUSE LLC.” (known as “AMERICAN MARINE SAFETY”); “SHIPSON OU”; “SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL, INC.”; “MANSEI INC”; “SIAM GLOBAL MARINE SAFETY COMPANY LIMITED”; “TECHNO FIBRE MIDDLE EAST MARINE SERVICES (FZE)” and “CMS CHELMIS MARINE SERVICES”.

May 2019 – **New companies Added:** “LIFE SAFETY COMERCIO MANUTENCAO E ALUGUEL DE EQUIPAMENTOS LTDA” “POSEIDON MARINE SUPPLIERS” “AL SAFWAN MARINE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE LLC.” “ELECTRIC ENGINEERING LTD.”

April 2019 – **New Companies Added:** “NCGB ENGINEERING CO.PVT.LTD” “PALFINGER MARINE SHANGHAI CO.,LTD.” “NISHI-NIPPON FUJIKURA CO.,LTD.”

March 2019 – **New Companies Added:** “ DELMAR MARINE SERVICES PTE.LTD.” “ FASSMER SERVICE GMBH & CO KG” “NAVALIMPIANTI-TECNIMPIANTI GROUP”

February 2019 - **New Companies Added:** “PALFINGER MARINE EUROPE B.V.” “PALFINGER MARINE DO BRASIL LTDA.” “SPHINX MARINE EQUIPMENTS TRADING L.L.C.” “SHIPTECH MARINE SERVICES”.

Companies That has Been Removed: " FASSMER SERVICE GMBH & CO KG" "MARTEC LTD" "NCGB ENGINEERING CO.PVT.LTD"

"UMOE SCHAT – HARDING (F.E.) PTE LTD, (SINGAPORE)"

January 2019 – New Companies Added: Renewal of " SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL (U.K.) LTD." " SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST L.L.C." "SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL ASIA SDN BHD" "SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA PTY LTD." "MAPAMAR COMERCIO E SERVICOS LTDA." "WHITEFIELD MARITIME (UAE) LTD FZC." " BREAKWATER INTERNATIONAL, LLC." "LOUIS MARINE EQUIPMENT SALE"

December 2018 – New Companies Added: Renewal of "VIKING LIFE – SAVING EQUIPMENT A/S"

Companies That has Been Removed: "L.A. MARITIME SERVICE INC" "NAVALIMPIANTI-TECNIMPIANTI GROUP" "UMOE SCHAT – HARDING GMBH (GERMANY)"

November 2018 – paragraph 1.3 amended, third column added reflecting approval expiry date....

October 2018 – New Companies Added: " ABC MARINE ENTERPRISES, LLC. " " BRIN – MAR ENGINEERING S.R.L." " NORSAFE HELLAS S.A. "

Companies That has Been Removed: " GLOBAL MARINE SAFETY LATIN AMERICA S.A."

September 2018 – New Companies Added: " TIANJIN DEEPBLUE OFFSHORE & SHIP SERVICE CO. LTD. "

August 2018 – New Companies Added: " ASTRO FIRE & SAFETY PTE LTD." " NAVIGATION 'S S.R.L." "SEASAFE MARINE LIMITED "SAFETBAG DENIZ HIZMETLERI VE TICARET LIMITED ŞİRKETİ" " G.S. MARINE SERVICES LTD." " WORLDWIDE SAFETY, S.A."

Companies That has Been Removed: " ACEBI SAS" " GLOBAL MARINE SAFETY LATIN AMERICA S.A."; " SURVIVAL SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL (UK) LTD."; " UMOE SCHAT-HARDING LIMITED (England) "; " VIKING LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT A/S "; " UMOE SCHAT-HARDING LSA SERVICES (SHANGHAI) CO. LTD."

July 2018 – New Companies Added: " PALFINGER MARINE UK LIMITED "

Companies That has Been Removed: "Harding Safety UK Limited".

June 2018 – New Companies Added: "DUNCAN Y COSSIO, S.A."; " DREW MARINE BRASIL FORNECEDORA DE PRODUTOS E SERVIÇOS LTDA".

Companies That has Been Removed: " Cobalt Blue Belgium BVBA" "Cobalt Blue Romania SRL"; "Cobalt Blue Singapore PTE LTD" "Cobalt Blue Trading (Shanghai) Co LTD"; "Cobalt Blue USA INC" " G.S. Marine Services LTD".

May 2018 – New Companies Added: "DEL – MAR SAFETY B.V."

Companies That has Been Removed: "BEACON OFFSHORE LTD." "UMOE SCHAT – HARDING B.V."

April 2018 – Addition of address "Thailand" to the company VIKING LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT A/S

February 2018 – New Companies Added: "ALATAS NORWAY AS." "GMS KOREA CO., LTD."

"GLOBAL MARINE SAFETY LATIN AMERICA S.A."

January 2018 – New Companies Added: "ALEX MARITIME SERVICE COMPANY – AMSCO", "DELMAR SAFETY INC.", "HSS MARINE SAFETY SERVICES LTD.", "MIZUNO MARINE CO., LTD."

December 2017 – New Companies Added: "NORSAFE KOREA CO., LTD.", "PALFINGER MARINE, CANADA, INC." "HANAMARINE SERVICE CO., LTD."

October 2017 - New Companies added: "DAELIM MARINE CO, LTD."; "DEL – MAR DENIZDE GUVENLIK SISTEMLERI TASIMACILIK SANAYI VE TICARET LIMITED SİRKETİ"; "DOLPHIN MARINE INDUSTRIAL CORP." ;

"FINE OCEAN MARINE INDUSTRIAL CORP." ; "MARINE SURVITEC CO., LTD." " SHINE MARINE SERVICE CO., LTD." "

July 2017 – New Companies added: AL NAJM AL THAQIB CO., A.R.S. CO., CRALOG A/S, EXTINTORES VALENCIA, S.L., "EXTINVAL", LIFEBOAT SERVICE DE MEXICO, S.A. DE CV "NORSAFE AS MEXICO"; PALFINGER MARINE EUROPE BV (DUBAI BRANCH), PALFINGER MARINE PANAMA, INC., PALFINGER MARINE SAFETY AS..

April 2017 – New Companies added: "NORSAFE SINGAPORE PTE. LTD." ; "GLOBAL MARINE SAFETY LATIN AMERICA S.A." ; "SHANGHAI STAR LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT CO., LTD." ; "SURVITEC SURVIVAL CRAFT LTD,"

December 2016 – New Companies added "GLOBAL MARINE SAFETY (SINGAPORE) PTE. LTD." ; "IDP SA" ; "RMS MARINE SERVICE COMPANY LTD."

September 2016 – New Company added " IBERIA LIFEBOAT SERVICE, S.L. ", amendment to 2.1 g) and 3.3 on the way of payment, and date of reference (d).

August 2016 – New Companies added "HAIDONG LIFE-SAVING CO., LTD." ; "SUEZ MARINE SAFETY CO.,"

June 2016 – New Companies added "International Maritime Group"; "Lianyungang Gangwan Maritime Safety Equipment CO., LTD." ; "Sahntou Anhang Ship's Equipment Services CO., LTD." and "Trinity Maritime Services, S.A."

April, 2016 – New Companies added "BG SAFE S.R.L." ; "L46 TRADERS (BOSS LIFEBOAT & LIFESAVING SERVICES)"; "REINA

MARINE LTD.”

March, 2016 - New Company added “Shiptech Marine Service”

January, 2016 – New Companies added “Daelim Marine Co., Ltd.”; “Global Maritime As”; “Hyundai Lifeboats Shanghai Co., Ltd.” amendment to paragraph 3.3.

September, 2015 – new Company added “Shanghai Mingyu Marine Service Co., Ltd.”

July, 2015 – new Company added “Eversailing Marine Safety Technology Co., Ltd.”

May, 2015 – point d) in reference added; point f) in 2.1 has been added; new companies added Global Marine Safety (Guangzhou), First Integrated Solutions Limited, Nantong Haiou Lifesaving & Protection Equipment Co. Ltd; Free Ocean Ship Engineering & Service Co., Ltd.; HYTEK A/S; Fassmer Service America Llc.; Lsa-Service GmbH; name change of company Schat Harding Panama Inc. to Harding Safety Panama Inc.; new paragraph 3.3 added.

February, 2015 – new companies added Survisea S.R.L., Hatecke Service GmbH and Beacon Offshore Ltd.

November, 2014 – new companies added Marland Boat Service Limited, Fibre Craft Asia Pte., Ltd., Rainbow Marine Engineering (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., and Star Shipcare Pte., Ltd., amendment to wording in paragraph 3.3.

October, 2014 – Correction of Company Name Harding Safety UK Limited)

April, 2014 – Correction of Company Name (No.2 and 11)

March, 2014 - 1 New Company added

February, 2014 - 5 New Companies added, Correction of Company Name (No.34)

December, 2013 – 6 New Companies added

August, 2013 – 7 New Companies added

June, 2013 – 9 New Companies added

April, 2013 – New Companies added

April, 2013 – New Company added

January, 2013 – Correction of Company name (No. 36) and inclusion of 2 new companies (No. 32 and No. 25).

December, 2012

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:

SEGUMAR-Panama

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5348 / 5350 / 5361 / 5354

E-mail: rberrocal@segumar.com

deputychief@segumar.com

sproviders@segumar.com

PanCanal Building
Albrook, Panama City
Republic of Panama
Tel: (507) 501-5355 mmc@amp.gob.pa