



ST KITTS & NEVIS INTERNATIONAL SHIP REGISTRY

MARITIME CIRCULAR – MC 105 21

IMO REQUIREMENTS ON CARRIAGE OF PUBLICATIONS ON BOARD SHIPS

1. Purpose

1.1. The purpose of this Maritime Circular is to remind Maritime Registrars, Ship Owners, Ship Managers and Ship Operators of the requirements adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) on carriage of publications on board ships.

2. Introduction

2.1. The Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its 53rd session (18 to 22 July 2005) and the Maritime Safety Committee, at its 81st session (10 to 19 May 2006), in order to give guidance on the carriage of publications on board ships, approved the *IMO Requirements on Carriage of Publications on Board Ships*, as set out in the annex of the *Circular MSC-MEPC.2/Circ.2* issued on 1 June 2006. Please find a copy of the Circular annexed to this Maritime Circular.

2.2. The Committees review and update the list of required publications, whenever is required.

3. Application

3.1. The publications listed in the table below are explicitly required by IMO instruments and shall always be carried on board.

Publication Name	Most Recent Edition	Mandatory By	Applicable Vessels	Comments
IBC Code	2020 Edition	IBC Code, Paragraph 16.2.1	Chemical Tankers	Constructed on or after 1 July 1986
BCH Code	2008 Edition	BCH Code, Paragraph 5.2.1	Chemical Tankers	Constructed on or after 1 July 1986
IGC Code	1993 Edition	IGC Code, Paragraph 18.1.3	Gas Carrier	Constructed on or after 1 July 1986
IGC Code	2016 Edition	IGC Code, Paragraph 18.1.2	Gas Carrier	Gas carriers constructed after 1 July 1986 and before 1 July 2016 should have a copy of the 1993 edition with all the supplements in addition to the 2016 edition, unless copies of national regulations incorporating the provisions of the IGC Code are provided on board ship, in which case the IMO publication of the IGC Code need not be carried on board. All new builds constructed after 1 July 2016 will require a copy of the 2016 edition of the IGC Code on board ship. Administrations may also choose to have a copy of the 2016 edition of the IGC Code for reference.
International Code of Signals	2005 Edition	SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 21.1	All	

IAMSAR Manual Volume III	2019 Edition	SOLAS, Chapter V, Regulation 21.2	All	
Nautical Charts & Publications		SOLAS, Chapter V, Regulation 19.2.1 and Chapter V, Regulation 27	All	
Publications Required by International Safety Management (ISM) Code		ISM Code, Paragraphs 1.2.3 and 11.3	All	Ship SMS manuals contain details of additional required publications.
ODS Logbook		MARPOL, Annex VI, Regulation 12	All	Logbook for ships with ODS (Ozon depleting substances) containing systems or equipment.

- 3.2. The publications may be carried in electronic format or as hard copies. Acceptable publications in electronic form should be those issued by IMO or the Administration or a body authorized by the Administration to ensure correctness of their contents and to safeguard against illegal copying.
- 3.3. The publications for emergency use, such as the International Code of Signals and the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR Manual) Volume III should always be available on board ships in the form of hard copies, bearing in mind that such publications need to be readily available for use in case of emergency without being restricted to a specific place and by the availability of a computer.
- 3.4. All publications on board ships, regardless of format, should be the latest editions or duly corrected up to date. In case where copies of national regulations incorporating the provisions of the required instruments are provided on board, publications of such instruments need not be carried on board.
- 3.5. The updated list of publications can be found on IMO website via the following link <https://www.imo.org/en/publications/Pages/CurrentPublications.aspx> Also a copy of the latest list of IMO publications as on 9 February 2021 is annexed to this Maritime Circular. Although the list includes the latest editions, Ship Owners, Ship Managers and Ship Operators must always review and ensure that the latest publications are carried on board.

If you have any questions, please contact this office.

Yours truly,



Liam Ryan (Sep 1, 2021 08:43 GMT)

Liam Ryan
International Registrar of Shipping and Seamen



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MSC-MEPC.2/Circ.2
1 June 2006

GENERAL MATTERS

IMO requirements on carriage of publications on board ships

1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-first session (10 to 19 May 2006), and the Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its fifty-third session (18 to 22 July 2005), in order to give guidance on the carriage of publications on board ships, approved the IMO requirements on carriage of publications on board ships as set out in the annex.

2 The Marine Environment Protection Committee and the Maritime Safety Committee will review and update, where necessary, the list of publications contained in the appendix to the annex.

3 Member Governments are invited to bring this circular to the attention of port State Control officers, Companies and audit teams according to the ISM Code, organizations performing the ISM Code certification, ship operators and all other parties concerned.

ANNEX**IMO REQUIREMENTS ON CARRIAGE OF PUBLICATIONS ON BOARD SHIPS**

1 The main purpose of this circular is to provide guidance in a concise form to Administrations, shipowners/operators, port State control officers (PSCOs), companies and audit teams according to the ISM Code and organizations performing the ISM Code certification of IMO requirements on carriage of publications. The publications explicitly required by IMO instruments to be carried on board ships are listed in the appendix.

2 IMO instruments such as the SOLAS, MARPOL, LL, COLREG and STCW Conventions deal with many operational aspects, *inter alia*, navigational responsibilities, safety-related training/drills on board, safe cargo handling, oil spill prevention, collision avoidance activities and watchkeeping standards. Therefore, these publications, although not expressly required by IMO instruments, may need to be carried on board in order to improve the crew's knowledge and to enhance the implementation of IMO instruments. No deficiency or non-conformity should be filed by port State control authorities and/or ISM auditors against ships not carrying such publications on board unless otherwise required by the ship's Safety Management System (SMS) manual.

3 In circumstances where copies of national regulations incorporating the provisions of the required instruments are provided on board, relevant publications need not be carried. Similarly, nothing in the IMO requirements preclude ships from carrying publications required by IMO instruments and published by Administrations.

4 The publications may be carried in the form of electronic media such as CD-ROM in lieu of hard copies. Acceptable publications in electronic form should be those issued by IMO or an Administration or a body authorized by an Administration to ensure correctness of their contents and to safeguard against illegal copying. A medium could either contain a publication or as many publications as possible. In any case, the media should be treated in accordance with the document control procedures in the ship's SMS including procedures for timely update.

5 Notwithstanding paragraph 4 above, the publications for emergency use, such as the International Code of Signals and the IAMSAR Manual should always be available in the form of hard copies, bearing in mind that such publications need to be readily available for use in case of emergency without being restricted to a specific place and by the availability of a computer.

APPENDIX

Publications required to be carried on board ships*

Name of publication	Required by	Applicable ship	Remarks
IBC Code	IBC, paragraph 16.2.1	Chemical Tankers	Built after 1 July 1986
BCH Code	BCH, paragraph 5.2.1	Chemical Tankers	Built before 1 July 1986
IGC Code	IGC, paragraph 18.1.3	Gas Carrier	Built after 1 July 1986
International Code of Signals**	SOLAS V/21.1	All ships	
IAMSAR Manual Volume III**	SOLAS V/21.2	All ships	
Nautical Charts & Publications	SOLAS V/19.2.1 & V/27	All ships	
Publications required by ISM Code	ISM Code, paragraphs 1.2.3 and 11.3	All ships	Required publications are those specifically mentioned to be carried by the ship's SMS manual.

Note: * All publications on board ships, regardless of format, should be the latest editions or duly corrected up to date. In case where copies of national regulations incorporating the provisions of the required instruments are provided on board, publications of such instruments need not be carried on board.

** These publications for emergency use should always be available on board ships in the form of hard copy.

LISTING OF CURRENT IMO PUBLICATIONS at 9 February 2021

1989 MODU Code, Consolidated 2001 Edition
2009 MODU Code, 2020 Edition
2010 Fire Test Procedures (FTP) Code, 2012 Edition
2010 HNS Convention, 2013 Edition
2011 ESP Code, 2020 Edition
2011 Timber Deck Cargoes (TDC), 2012 Edition
2012 Guidelines for Fish Waste, 2013 Edition
30th Session 2017 (Res. 1110-1130)
31st Session 2019 (Res. 1131 - 1147)
Anti-Fouling Systems (AFS) Convention, 2005 Edition
Ballast Water Management – How to do it, 2017 Edition
Basic Documents: Volume I, 2018 Edition
Basic Documents: Volume II, 2020 Edition
BCH Code, 2008 Edition
Bioremediation in Marine Oil Spills, 2004 Edition
BLU Code including BLU Manual, 2011 Edition
Bunker Sampling Guidelines, 2005 Edition
BWM Convention and BWMS Code with Guidelines for Implementation, 2018 Edition
Cape Town Agreement of 2012, 2018 Edition
Carbon dioxide sequestration, 2016 Edition
Carbon dioxide sequestration, 2016 Edition
Cargo Stowage & Securing (CSS) Code, 2011 Edition
Carriage of Cargo & Persons by OSV, 2000 Edition
Casualty Investigation Code, 2008 Edition
Civil Liability Convention (CLC), 1977 Edition
Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1996 Edition
Code of Safety Diving Systems, 1997 Edition
Code on Alerts and Indicators, 2009, 2010 Edition
Code on Intact Stability (IS), 2009 Edition
Code on noise levels on board ships, 2014 Edition
Collision Regulations Convention (COLREGS), 2003 Edition
Compensation Fund for Oil Pollution Damage, 1972 Bilingual Edition
Compensation Fund Records for Oil Pollution Damage, 1978 Edition
Compliance Monitoring Disposal, 2017 Edition
Condition Assessment Scheme (CAS)
Control & Management of Ships' Biofouling, 2012 Edition
Crude Oil Washing Systems, 2000 Edition
Dangerous Goods in Port Areas, 2007 Edition
Dedicated Clean Ballast Tanks, 1982 Edition
Facilitation Convention (FAL), 20171 Edition

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Field Monitoring Disposal, 2016 Edition
Fire Safety Systems (FSS) Code, 2015 Edition
Fishing Vessel Personnel Guidance Document, 2001 Edition
Gas Carrier Code for Existing Ships, 1976 Edition
Gas Carrier Code, 1983 Edition
GMDSS Manual, 2019 Edition
GMDSS Operating Guidance Card
Goal-based ship construction standards, 2013 Edition
Guidance for Dredged Material, 2009 Edition
Guidance on GMDSS distress alerts card, 2013 Edition
Guidance Signs for Airport and Marine Terminals, 1995 Multilingual Edition
Guide on oil spill response in ice and snow conditions, 2017 Edition
Guide to Cold Water Survival, 2012 Edition
Guide to Maritime Security & ISPS Code, 2012 Edition
Guide to the Implementation of the OPRC Convention and OPRC-HNS Protocol, 2020 Edition
Guideline for Oil Spill Response in fast currents, 2013 Edition
Guidelines for Liquids Transported in Bulk, 1997 Edition
Guidelines for the Implementation of MARPOL Annex V, 2017 Edition
Guidelines on assessment of dredged materials, 2015 Edition
Guidelines on Fatigue, 2019 Edition
Guidelines on Harmful Aquatic Organisms, 1998 Edition
High Speed Craft (1994 HSC) Code, 1995 Edition
High Speed Craft (2000 HSC) Code, 2008 Edition
Hong Kong Convention, 2013 Edition
IAMSAR Manual Volume III Action Cards, 2019 Edition
IAMSAR Manual: Volume I, 2019 Edition
IAMSAR Manual: Volume II, 2019 Edition
IAMSAR Manual: Volume III, 2019 Edition
IBC Code, 2020 Edition
IGC Code, 1993 Edition
IGC Code, 2016 Edition
IGF Code, 2016 Edition
IMDG Code Supplement, 2020 Edition
IMDG Code, 2018 Edition (inc. Amendment 39-18)
IMDG Code, 2020 Edition (inc. Amendment 40-20)
IMO 2020: Consistent Implementation of MARPOL Annex VI, 2019 Edition
IMO Guidelines on Ship Recycling, 2006 Edition
IMO In-Situ Burning Guidelines, 2017 Edition
IMO Liability and Compensation Regime, 2018 Edition

LISTING OF CURRENT IMO PUBLICATIONS at 9 February 2021

IMO Member States Audit Scheme, 2015 Edition
IMO SMCP with CD (pronunciation guide), 2002 Edition
IMO/ILO Guidelines on Seafarers' Hours, 1999 Edition
IMO/ILO/UNECE CTU Code, 2014 Edition
IMO/UNEP Guidance Manual, 2009 Edition
Implementation of The London Protocol, 2018 Edition
IMS Implementation Document
IMSBC Code & Supplement (inc. Amdt 04-17), 2018 Edition
IMSBC Code & Supplement (inc. Amdt 05-19), 2020 Edition
Inert Gas Systems, 1990 Edition
Instruments relevant to port State control 2019, 2020 Edition
International Bunkers Convention, 2004 Edition
International Code of Signals, 2005 Edition
International Conference on Salvage, 1989 Edition
International Conference on Salvage, 1989 Edition
International Convention on Load Lines, 2005 Edition
International Convention on OPRC, 1991 Edition
International Grain Code, 1991 Edition
International SafetyNET Manual, 2017 Edition
Intervention Convention, 1977 Edition
ISM Code & Guidelines, 2018 Edition
Life-Saving Appliances inc LSA Code, 2017 Edition
Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims, 2016 Edition
London Convention & London Protocol, 2016 Edition
London Convention and Protocol Step-by-Step Guidance, 2020 Multilingual Edition
London Protocol: What it is and how to implement it, 2014 Edition
Manual on Chemical Pollution - Section 1, 1999 Edition
Manual on Chemical Pollution - Section 2, 2007 Edition
Manual on Chemical Pollution - Section 3, 2015 Edition
Manual on Oil Pollution - Section I, 2011 Edition
Manual on Oil Pollution - Section II, 2018 Edition
Manual on Oil Pollution - Section III, 1997 Edition
Manual on Oil Pollution - Section IV, 2005 Edition
Manual on Oil Pollution - Section V, 2009 Edition
Manual on Oil Pollution - Section VI, 1978 Edition
Manual on Port Reception Facilities, 1999 Edition
Maritime Carriage of Nuclear Substances, 1972 Multilingual Edition
MARPOL - How to do it, 2013 Edition
MARPOL Annex V discharge provisions, 2017 Edition
MARPOL Annex VI & NTC 2008, 2017 Edition

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MARPOL, Consolidated Edition 2017
MSI Manual, 2015 Edition
Nairobi Convention of Wreck Removals, 2008 Edition
NAVTEX Manual, 2017 Edition
Noise levels on board ships, 1982 Edition
Offshore Supply Vessels Guidelines, 2006 Edition
Oil Response in Tropical Waters, 1997 Edition
Oil Spill Dispersant Application Guidelines, 1995 Edition
Oil Spill Risk Evaluation Manual, 2010 Edition
Operational Guidelines on Oil, 2016 Edition
OPRC - HNS Protocol 2000, 2002 Edition
OSV Chemical Code, 2018 Edition
Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA), 2017 Edition
Passengers & Luggage on Ships, 2003 Edition
Performance Standards, 2020 Edition
Pocket Guide to Recovery Techniques, 2014 Edition
Polar Code, 2016 Edition
Pollution Prevention Equipment, 2006 Edition
Port Reception Facilities - How to do it, 2016 Edition
Poster: Escape Route Signs and Equipment Location Markings
Poster: IMDG Code Labels, Marks & Signs
Poster: Symbols related to Life-Saving Appliances & Arrangements
Prevention of Corrosion on Ships, 2010 Edition
Prevention Pollution (OILPOL), 1981 Edition
Procedures for port State control 2019, 2020 Edition
Related information for CTU Code, 2016 Edition
Reporting Incidents under MARPOL, 1999 Edition
Response to a Marine Oil Pollution Incident, 2016 Edition
Revised Guidance on the National Implementation of The London Protocol, 2018 Edition
Safe Containers Convention (CSC), 2014 Edition
Safety Code for Fishermen & Fishing Vessels(A), 2006 Edition
Safety Code for Fishermen & Fishing Vessels(B), 2006 Edition
Safety Code for Special Purpose Ships, 2008 Edition
Sampling & Analysis of Dredged Material, 2005 Edition
SAR Convention, 2006 Edition
Seafood Safety During and After Oil Spill, 2002 Edition
Ship Pollution Emergency Plans (SOPEP), 2010 Edition
Ships' Routing, 2019 Edition
SOLAS Consolidated Edition, 2020
Space requirements for special trade ships, 1972 Bilingual Edition
Special trade passenger ships conference, 1972 Bilingual Edition

LISTING OF CURRENT IMO PUBLICATIONS at 9 February 2021

STCW - Fishing 95, 1996 Edition
STCW including 2010 Manila Amendments, 2017 Edition
Supplement to OILPOL, 1981 Edition
Symbols for Fire Control Plans, 2006 Edition
Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1970 Edition
Voluntary Guidelines for Small Fishing Vessels, 2006 Edition
Waste Assessment Guidelines, 2014 Edition

MODEL COURSES

Advanced training for chemical cargo tanker operations, 2016 Edition
Advanced training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations, 2015 Edition
Advanced training for masters, officers, ratings and other personnel on ships subject to the IGF
Advanced training for oil tanker cargo operations, 2015 Edition
Advanced training for ships operating in polar waters, 2017 Edition
Advanced Training in Fire Fighting, 2000 Edition
Assessment, Examination & Certification of Seafarers, 2017 Edition
Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), 2019 Edition
Basic training for liquefied gas tanker cargo operations, 2014 Edition
Basic training for masters, officers, ratings and other personnel on ships subject to the IGF
Basic training for oil and chemical tanker cargo operations, 2014 Edition
Basic training for ships operating in polar waters, 2017 Edition
Chemical Tanker Cargo & Ballast Handling, 2007 Edition
Chief and Second Engineer Officers on a Fishing Vessel, 2008 Edition
Chief Engineer Officer & 2nd Engineer Officer, 2014 Edition
Code, 2019 Edition
Code, 2019 Edition
Company Security Officer, 2011 Edition
CTUs Workbook, 2001 Edition
Dangerous, hazardous and harmful cargoes, 2014 Edition
Electro-technical Officer, 2014 Edition
Electro-Technical Rating, 2019 Edition
Elementary First Aid, 2000 Edition
Energy Efficient Operation of Ships, 2014 Edition
Engine-Room Simulator, 2017 Edition
Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, 2000 Edition
Flag State Implementation, 2010 Edition
General Operator's Certificate for GMDSS, 2015 Edition
Hull and Structural Surveys, 2004 Edition
Leadership & Teamwork, 2014 Edition
LNG Tanker Cargo & Ballast Handling Simulator, 2019 Edition

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LPG Tanker Cargo & Ballast Handling Simulator, 2007 Edition
Marine Environmental Awareness, 2011 Edition
Maritime English, 2015 Edition
Master and Chief Mate, 2014 Edition
Medical Care, 2000 Edition
Medical First Aid, 2000 Edition
Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch on a Fishing Vessel, 2008 Edition
Officer in charge of Engineering Watch, 2014 Edition
Officer in charge of Navigational Watch, 2014 Edition
Oil Tanker Cargo & Ballast Handling Simulator, 2002 Edition
Onboard Assessment, 2017 Edition
Operational use of ECDIS, 2012 Edition
Operational Use of Integrated Bridge Systems, 2005 Edition
Passenger Ship Crisis Management Training, 2019 Edition
Passenger Ship Crowd Management Training, 2018 Edition
periodically unmanned engine-room, 2017 Edition
Personal Safety & Social Responsibilities, 2016 Edition
Personal Survival Techniques, 2019 Edition
Piracy & Armed Robbery Prevention, 2011 Edition
Port Facility Security Officer, 2015 Edition
Port State Control, 2001 Edition
Proficiency in Crisis Management, 2000 Edition
Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boats, 2000 Edition
Proficiency in Survival Craft & Rescue Boats, 2000 Edition
Radar Navigation at Management Level, 2019 Edition
Radar Navigation at Operational level, 2017 Edition
Ratings as Able Seafarer Deck, 2017 Edition
Ratings as Able Seafarer Engine, 2019 Edition
Ratings forming part of a watch in a manned engine-room or designated to perform duties in a
Restricted Operator's Certificate for GMDSS, 2015 Edition
Safe Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU), 2001 Edition
Safety Investigation into Marine Casualties & Incidents, 2014 Edition
Safety of Fishing Operations (Support), 2005 Edition
Safety Training for Personnel Providing Direct Service to Passengers in Passenger Spaces, 2018
SAR Administration (IAMSAR Manual, Vol I), 2014 Edition
SAR Mission Coordinator (IAMSAR Manual, Vol II), 2020 Edition
SAR On-Scene Coordinator (IAMSAR Manual, Vol III), 2014 Edition
Second Class Radioelectronic Certificate for GMDSS, 2002 Edition
Security Awareness Training for all Port Facility Personnel, 2011 Edition
Security Awareness Training for all Seafarers, 2012 Edition

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Security Awareness Training for Port Facility Personnel w/ Designated Security Duties, 2018 Ed
Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties 2012 Edition
Ship Security Officer, 2012 Edition
Ship Simulator & Bridge Teamwork, 2002 Edition
Skipper on a Fishing Vessel, 2008 Edition
Survey of Electrical Installations, 2004 Edition
Survey of Fire Appliances & Provisions, 2004 Edition
Survey of Life-Saving Appliances & Arrangements, 2004 Edition
Survey of Machinery Installations, 2004 Edition
Survey of Navigational Aids & Equipment, 2004 Edition
Train the Simulator Trainer and Assessor, 2012 Edition
Training Course for Instructors, 2017 Edition
Use of Leadership & Managerial Skills, 2018 Edition