



ST KITTS & NEVIS INTERNATIONAL SHIP REGISTRY

MARITIME CIRCULAR – MC 121 23

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATES

1. **Purpose**

1.1. The purpose of this Maritime Circular is to provide information on the use of electronic certificates issued by the Recognized Organizations (ROs).

2. **Introduction**

2.1. Recognized Organizations (ROs) acting on behalf of the St. Kitts & Nevis Flag to conduct survey and certification on vessels registered with SKAN are authorized and encouraged to develop capabilities to issue electronic version of the statutory certificates to replace the traditional paper statutory certificates.

3. **Application**

3.1. This Marine Circular applies to all vessels registered with SKAN.

4. **Recommendations**

4.1 The International Maritime Organization (IMO) guidelines, as contained in IMO Circulars FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 and FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1, set out the features for electronic certificates to enable stakeholders to verify their authenticity.

5. **Guidelines**

5.1. The electronic statutory certificates issued by Recognized Organizations to vessels registered with SKAN shall comply with FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 and FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1, which, inter alia, identify the following features:

- a) Validity and consistency with the format and content required by the relevant international convention or instrument;
- b) Protected from edits, modifications or revisions;
- c) A unique tracking number for verification;
- d) Reliably and securely verifiable through a conveniently accessible and continuously available platform; and
- e) A printable and visible symbol that confirms the source of issuance.

5.2 The electronic statutory certificates issued by ROs in accordance with FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 and FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2/Corr.1 shall be deemed valid in accordance with all applicable international instruments. In addition, the ROs must provide clear and simple instructions for any party who may wish to verify the validity and authenticity of the electronic statutory certificates.

If you have any questions, please contact this office at mail@skanregistry.com

Yours truly,



Liam Ryan
International Registrar of Shipping and Seamen