



ST KITTS & NEVIS INTERNATIONAL SHIP REGISTRY

MARITIME CIRCULAR – MC 128 24

OVERSIGHT PROGRAM FOR SKAN RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS AS PER THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE RO CODE

1. **Purpose**

1.1. The purpose of this Maritime Circular is to provide information about the oversight program as determined by this Administration for the Recognized Organizations (ROs), in order to verify that the ROs authorized to perform statutory certification and services on behalf of the St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry are fully compliant with the applicable International Instruments, including but not limited to, the RO code, International and National Regulations.

2. **Introduction**

2.1. The St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry is committed to ensuring that all SKAN registered ships are in compliance with the mandatory requirements of the international conventions, protocols and related codes to which SKAN is a signatory, while the ROs are authorized to perform the requisite surveys, inspections, audits and assessments to verify compliance, and to issue the relevant statutory certification as evidence of compliance, where applicable.

3. **Application**

3.1. This Maritime Circular applies to all the ROs that hold an agreement issued by the Government of Saint Christopher and Nevis to perform Classification and Statutory Certification Services which shall be in compliance with the RO Code requirements.

4. **Recommendations**

4.1. This Administration, in order to ensure that the authorized ROs are fully met the requirements of the RO Code, has establish an oversight program, with effect of 01 January 2023, that will assist in achieving a harmonized and consistent global implementation of requirements established by IMO instruments for the assessment of the Recognized Organizations.

4.2. All requirements of the RO Code and the established oversight program by this Administration are applicable to all ROs, regardless of their type and size and the statutory certification and services provided.

5. **Guidelines**

5.1. All ROs are subject to an audit to the scope of Initial prior their authorization by this Administration, following the provisions of the RO Code. For existing ROs, the first audit from the start date of this Oversight Programme will be to the scope of Initial. Thereafter, the audit schedule shall be as per 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4.

5.2. A Renewal audit is to be conducted four (4) years after the completion of the Initial audit.

5.3. A Recognized Organization may be requested to undergo an Annual audit by this Administration, equivalent to a renewal audit, the extent of which shall take into account the number and nature of

the imposed major non-conformities, non-conformities, observations etc, when the results of the audits as per paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 above are considered as non-satisfactory.

5.4. An Additional audit may be conducted when one of the following conditions apply:

a) A vessel under an RO offering statutory services has been subject to two or more detentions by port state control in a period of 12 months.

b) Vessels of the RO that issues statutory certificates have been detained in major MoU regions and there has been an increase in the excess factor of the RO regarding the inspections occurred/detentions taken place.

c) Inspections on vessels of the RO determine that a identified defect is attributed to the RO as "RO Responsible".

5.5. All Recognized Organizations authorized by the St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry are committed to complying with all the above relevant communication instructions and take the corresponding actions therewith.

5.6. The St. Kitts & Nevis International Ship Registry may choose to participate in the accreditation audits for the Quality Management System audits as observer.

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

Yours truly,

Liam Ryan
International Registrar of Shipping and Seamen

We hereby confirm our understanding and acceptance of the RO Oversight Program deployed by the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis.

Name of Signatory:	Date: