



# Merchant Marine **Notice**

Panama Maritime Authority  
General Directorate of Merchant Marine  
Control and Compliance Department

F-34  
(DCCM)  
V.04

## **SANCTION TO ALL THOSE VESSELS OF PANAMANIAN REGISTRY THAT DELIBERATELY DEACTIVATE THE LONG RANGE IDENTIFICATION AND TRACKING EQUIPMENT (LRIT) OR THE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS).**

**MMN-09/2020.**

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1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Notice is to reiterate to all our users that this General Directorate of Merchant Marine will impose sanctions to all those Panamanian flagged vessels that deliberately deactivate, tamper or alter the operation of Long Range Identification and Tracking System (LRIT) or the Automatic Identification System (AIS).
2. This sanction will apply in the same manner to all vessels that have been detained or restricted within jurisdictional waters of the Republic of Panama, and without authorization from the General Directorate of Merchant Marine, change position or engage on any commercial activity, and/or deactivate, tamper or alter the Long Range Identification and Tracking System (LRIT) or Automatic Identification System (AIS).
3. This General Directorate of Merchant Marine is monitoring all our fleet 24/7, so if the Long Range Identification and Tracking System (LRIT) or the Automatic Identification System (AIS) are down or not reporting, an automatic alert will be send to the Navigation and Maritime Safety Department (Fleet Control and Monitoring Section), where the personnel responsible will initiate an internal investigation of such alert, and if there is no technical support that justifies the missing report, it may culminate with sanctions that will be deemed appropriate. In some cases where the Vessel is found having this conduct on regular bases could be de-flagged or deleted from the registry.

In this sense, an automatic alert is delivered to the vessel each time either the LRIT or the AIS System are not reporting or deliberately deactivated, tamper or alter as follows:

*“Dear Sirs:*

*The General Directorate of Merchant Marine has detected that either the LRIT or AIS System of the vessel is not reporting, reason why we would like to know if there is any inconvenience with such equipment, otherwise an internal investigation will be initiate*



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*against the vessel based on the Resolution No. 106-048-DGMM dated August 19th, 2019. Your prompt reply to this message will be highly appreciated.”*

4. It is mandatory, that the Long Range Identification and Tracking Equipment (LRIT) or the Automatic Identification System (AIS) keep functioning permanently and adequately, avoiding by all possible means that they stop transmitting information about the identity and position of the vessel. Otherwise this General Directorate may intervene with the corresponding sanctions.
5. Through the [Resolution No. 106-048-DGMM](#) dated on August 19th, 2019, the sanctions established for these actions, could lead up to \$10,000.00 U.S. Dollars and/or the de-registration/de-flagged of the vessel from our Merchant Marine Fleet.
6. This Administration also, recall to all operators/owners of ships that would like to be under our Flag, that through the Merchant Marine Notice MMN-03/2019 of July, 2019 we stated that you shall make the initial approach with our LRIT provider, Pole Star Space Applications Ltd., S.A., in order to undergo the LRIT conformance Test, otherwise our LRIT provider will contact you shortly after the Registry Department of the General Directorate of Merchant Marine notifies them about the new vessel being registered under the Panamanian Flag.
7. We reiterate the full compliance with our national legislations and international conventions ratified by the Republic of Panama, in order to avoid further sanctions.

**March, 2023 - Change in the final part E-mail.  
May, 2020.**

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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Notice or any other request should be forward to:

Navigation and Maritime Safety Department  
Fleet Control and Monitoring Section  
Directorate General of Merchant Marine  
Panama Maritime Authority

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