

Merchant Marine Circular

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

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-171

To: Ship-owner/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organization (RO's).

Subject: Annual Safety Inspection Program.

Reference: Law No. 57, August 6, 2008.
Law No. 39, July 8, 1976.
Law No. 45, October 9, 1979.
Law No. 30, September 17, 1980.
Executive Decree No. 56, October 8, 1976.
Resolution No. 106-138-DGMM, September 10, 2013.
Resolution No. 106-137-DGMM, September 10, 2013.
Resolution No. 106-25-DGMM, April 16, 2015.
Resolution No. 106-39-DGMM, May 8, 2017.
Resolution No. 106-38-DGMM, May 8, 2017.
Resolution No. 106-36-DGMM, April 25, 2017.

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1. This merchant Marine Circular compiles the **MMC-20**.
 2. **Purpose:**
 - 2.1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to formally inform all parties involved; you will be able to inquire the availability and status of the annual safety inspection for each vessel.
 - 2.2. In this sense, each vessel sailing under the Panamanian flag in foreign service and dedicated to the international commerce and other commercial activities shall be subject to an annual safety inspection, in order to determine whether it complies with the National and International Laws and Regulations currently in force. In addition, said vessels shall be subject to special inspections whenever circumstances merit this, in order to attain the aforementioned aims.



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3. Scope:

- 3.1. For all the owner(s)/operator(s), charterers and others responsible for the operation of one or more vessels sailing under the Panamanian flag, as well as their agents or representatives, and the Master of such vessels shall be under obligation to admit the Inspection personnel on board, cooperate with them and allow them to fully carry out the inspection.

4. Requirement:

- 4.1. Online Vessel Status for Annual Safety Inspections.

4.1.1. The reason behind this new module is to provide a service of quality and to expedite the ASI authorizations request process in a shorter time.

4.1.2. After consulting the online status of a vessel, your request should be sent to asi@amp.gob.pa in order to grant the authorization.

4.1.3. The different choices that will appear on the new module of Ship Status Online for Annual Safety Inspections are as follows:

4.1.4. Inspected: ASI of the ship does not have 12 months (authorization should not be requested to the ASI Section).

4.1.5. Under inspection: Inspector has a valid authorization (authorization should not be requested to the ASI Section).

4.1.6. Available: Last inspection is expired; never has been inspected; inspector has an expired authorization (In these cases, the authorization should be requested to the ASI Section).

4.1.7. The new module will be available on the following web site: <https://amp.digitalede.net/vessels>.

5. Note:

When the authorization has more than 17 days and the inspector have not sent the preliminary report, it will be cancelled automatically.



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6. Warning:

The owner or Master of a vessel who refuses the Inspection Service to which Law No. 39 of July 8, 1976 refers, or who fails to submit the form on which the Inspection is recorded shall be subject to penalty of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). In the event of reoccurrence, in addition to the penalty, there may be an immediate cancellation of the Panamanian Registry of the vessel without affecting the compliance with the obligations as set forth by the Laws of the National Merchant Marine

October, 2023 – *Changed subject, compiles the circular MMC-20, include references, purpose, scope and text update.*
July, 2002.

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

Navigation and Maritime Safety Department
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