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5 JUL 2012

Subject: **Clarification on applicability of Domestic Document of Compliance (DDOC) for River Sea Vessels and compliance verification.**

The Directorate has been receiving many queries from shipping companies on the applicability of Domestic Document of Compliance on River Sea Vessels, as defined by para 3, Annex 1 of the DGS order 6 of 2010 and the compliance verification methodology.

This circular is being issued to clarify the subject matter as follows :-

1. Domestic Safety Management Code (DSM Code) is applicable to vessels above 500 GT and plying exclusively under River Sea Vessel Rules.
2. As per the DGS Order No. 6 of 2010, Annexure 1, para 3, River Sea Vessels have been classified as RSV Type 1, Type 2, Type 3, and Type 4
3. For RSV Type 1 & 2 vessels no separate Domestic Document of Compliance shall be required. However, in order to meet the objectives of the Code, owners/operators/managers who have assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship and discharge the duties and responsibilities under Code, as applicable, for Type 1 & Type 2 River-sea vessels, should develop a "Safety and environmental protection policy" and a suitable check list for daily reporting of the vessel covering with elements of the DSM code.
4. Compliance with the DSM code (as required by para 3, Annexure 12) of the said DGS Order for RSV Type 1 and 2 vessels will be based on the assessment of related documentation onboard the river-sea vessels annually by the Administration or a Recognised Organisation acting on its behalf, during the annual survey as set out in Clause 1.2.1.4 of Annex X to DGS Order 6 of 2010. This assessment will be recorded in River Sea Vessel Safety Certificate.

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5. Company responsible for operation & management of Type 3 or Type 4 river-sea vessels shall be required to be in possession of a valid Domestic Document of Compliance (DDOC) as required by para 4.7.1 ,Annexure XII of the DGS Order 6 of 2010.
6. The first assessment of the documentation onboard the river-sea vessels of Type 3 and 4 shall be carried out by the Administration or a Recognised Organisation acting on its behalf during the first annual survey immediately following the issuance of the full-term DDOC.
7. Thereafter, the assessment of the Company's safety management systems and related documentation onboard the river-sea vessels shall be carried out by the Administration or Recognized Organisation acting on its behalf in line with Clause 4.7.3 of the DSM Code.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

D. Mehrotra

(D. Mehrotra)

Dy. Chief Surveyor with the Govt. of India

To,

1. The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai/Kolkata/Chennai / Kochin/ Kandla
2. The Surveyor-in-charge, Mercantile Marine Department, Goa/Jamnagar/ Port Blair / Visakhapatanam / Tuticorin / Delhi / Halida /Paradip/Mangalore.
3. Indian Register of Shipping, Mumbai
4. All DDOC holder
5. ICC Shipping Association , Mumbai
6. The Nautical Adviser to the Govt. of India
7. The Chief Surveyor with the Govt. of India
8. MSL Branch
9. Computer Cell
10. Hindi Cell

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