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Circular

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TO: Related departments of CCS Headquarters; Branches and Offices; and Ship Companies

MANDATORY LOOKOUT

--- Commonwealth of Dominica Marine Safety Circular CD-MSC 05-12

Rev01

The Office of The Maritime Administrator of Commonwealth of Dominica issued the Marine Safety Circular CD-MSC 05-12 Rev01 to all shipowners, operators, masters and officers of merchant ships. The purpose of this Circular is to bring to the attention of all concerned the requirements regarding watch keeping, specifically the requirement to maintain a proper lookout at sea. The circular is to be forwarded by CCS offices and branches to ship companies in relevance to their business. All the parties concerned are requested to pay attention to the requirements and act accordingly.

Attachment: Commonwealth of Dominica Marine Safety Circular CD-MSC 05-12
Rev01, total 2 pages

For any question please contact the Certification Management Dept. of CCS

Commonwealth of Dominica



Office of the Maritime Administrator

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS

SUBJECT: MANDATORY LOOKOUT

REFERENCE:

- (a) Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, (COLREG) 1972, as amended;**
- (b) International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), as amended – Code Part A/Chapter VIII/Part 1-4: Principles to be Observed in Keeping a Navigational Watch**
- (c) MSC/Circ.638 Maintaining a Proper Lookout**
- (d) MSC/Circ.813/MEPC/Circ.330 The Role of the Human Element**

APPLICABILITY: All Dominica registered vessels

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Circular is to bring to the attention of all concerned the requirements regarding watch keeping, specifically the requirement to maintain a proper lookout at sea.

BACKGROUND:

The requirement for a look-out is established in COLREGS, 1972 in Rule 5:

Every vessel shall at all times maintain a proper look-out by sight and hearing as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and of the risk of collision.

This requirement is also reinforced in STCW and multiple circulars that have been published by both the Maritime Safety Committee and the Maritime Environmental

Protection Committee following the investigations of marine casualties leading to loss of property, life, and/or environmental damage.

Following an investigation of a recent collision involving a Dominica flagged vessel which led to the complete loss of the ship, it was determined that the absence of dedicated lookouts on both ships largely contributed to the collision.

REQUIREMENTS:

General

- 1 All ships are required to ensure safe navigation in all conditions taking into account traffic, weather, visibility etc. A look-out must be a designated individual able to give full attention to their duties and shall not undertake other tasks while maintaining a lookout. The requirements in STCW Section A-VIII/2, Part 3-1, Section 15 stipulate the conditions on which a lookout may be combined with the duties of a watch-keeper.

Applicability

- 1 These requirements are applicable to all ships in all waters in order to ensure the safe navigation of vessels and to avoid collision.

Required Action by Owners/Operators

- 1 The owners/operators of DMRI registered vessels shall ensure that the masters and watch-keepers of their vessel(s) maintain a proper lookout at all times when underway. During the hours of darkness and in restricted visibility at any time the OOW shall be assisted by a dedicated lookout.
- 2 This circular must be presented to the master of all vessels registered with Dominica Maritime Registry and the subject discussed internally to evaluate how effective look-outs will be kept.

Any questions can be directed to:

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