

## M-Notices October 11

### **MSN 1672 (M+F) Amendment 3 – Ship inspection and Survey Organisations and European Directive 2009/15/EC**

This Merchant Shipping Notice outlines the approved standards as referred to in Merchant Shipping legislation, and explains the means through which the UK has transposed Directive 2009/15/EC.

The notice therefore sets out in close detail the legal framework governing statutory bodies and certification organisations, with frequent reference to a wide range of UK and EU regulations.

This third version of the notice (Amendment 3) amends MSN 1672 (as previously amended by MSN 1672 Amendment 1, and MSN 1672 Amendment 2). In place of all previous text in MSN 1672, MSN 1672 Amendment 1, and MSN 1672 Amendment 2, please insert the text in this amendment. Any reference in MSNs, MGNs, MINs, and other MCA instructions or procedures to MSN 1672 should be read as a reference to MSN 1672 as amended by this notice.

### **MSN 1830 (M) – Implementation of Directive 2009/21/EC in the United Kingdom**

This Merchant Shipping Notice describes the way in which the United Kingdom meets its obligations under the European Flag State Directive 2009/21/EC.

The broad areas covered relate to obligations regarding the transfer of data between flag states, action when UK ships are detained abroad, the storage of data about UK ships, and the auditing, quality and reporting systems of the UK administration.

One of the UK's obligations is to assess vessels before allowing them to fly the country's flag. MSN 1830 explains how the assessment uses a 'flagging-in matrix' which scores the ship against international standards and risk factors. The UK is also committed to the prompt release of any deficiency and safety-related information when a vessel transfers to another flag state.

Another obligation is for the UK to take action when a ship flying its flag is detained abroad. MSN 1830 explains the steps the UK takes to bring such a vessel into compliance via MCA inspectors or other recognised bodies, and details the follow-up checks to be made afterwards.

MSN 1830 also lists the types of data held by the UK on ship particulars, port state control history, marine casualties and so on. Finally, it explains the auditing and quality-management systems the UK is obliged to have in place under the European Flag State Directive 2009/21/EC.

### **MIN 414 (M+F) – Stockton Marine Office: Closure of Marine Office**

This note reports that the MCA Marine Office at Stockton on Tees will be permanently closed as from 2 September 2011.

All MCA business functions previously carried out by the Stockton Marine Office will transfer to the MCA Tyne Marine Office at South Shields. Contact details for the South Shields office are given in MIN 414.