

Circular 225/2020

To: Vessel Owners, Managers, Masters, Officers, Deputy Registrars and Other Interested Parties

Subject: Use of Electronic Log Data and Record Book Systems on Cook Islands flagged vessels.

Attachments:

- **Resolution MEPC.312(74) – Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under Marpol**

Date: 3rd March 2020

Summary

Vessels have been always managed keeping track of records, activities, evidences through paper forms, however the tendency now is to go for paper-free systems, where information is shared via online links between Office and Vessels. This change is led by the need of more efficient management systems, as well as an eco-friendlier approach.

Even if most of the management companies have already chosen to use electronic format for all ISM records to be kept on board, a lot of compulsory data is still kept on paper.

IMO have started implementing different regulations to address the transition to paper free vessels: in May 2019 MEPC.312(74), Guidelines for the use of electronic record books under Marpol, was adopted to address the use of electronic record books (ERB) on board, applicable to the following books:

1. Oil Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex I, regulations 17.1 and 36.1);
2. Cargo Record Book (MARPOL Annex II, regulation 15.1);
3. Garbage Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex V, regulation 10.3);
4. Ozone-depleting Substances Record Book (MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 12.6);
5. recording of the tier and on/off status of marine diesel engines (MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 13.5.3);
6. Record of Fuel Oil Changeover (MARPOL Annex VI, regulation 14.6); and
7. Record Book of Engine Parameters (NOX Technical Code, paragraph 6.2.2.7).

Maritime Cook Islands (MCI) will allow the use of the above mentioned ERBs onboard its registered vessels, provided the following conditions:

MANUFACTURERS

ERBs used onboard Cook Islands flagged vessels are required to be approved by MCI. ERBs manufacturers can obtain such approval by providing MCI with documentary evidence that the ERB has been approved by an IACS RO in accordance with MEPC.312(74) and relevant MARPOL regulations.

If the ERB has been developed directly by an IACS RO, then MCI will require the RO to submit a declaration of conformity with MEPC.312(74) and relevant MARPOL regulations.

SHIPOWNERS AND SHIP MANAGERS

Shipowners and ship managers are required to notify MCI of the intention to use ERBs onboard Cook Islands flagged vessels. MCI has to be provided with the vessel name and IMO number as well as with the ERB software details and estimated date of installation.

The use of ERBs onboard has to be approved by MCI for every single vessel. MCI will also make sure that a "Declaration of Marpol Electronic Record Book" (according to MEPC.312(74) Para. 5) is issued to the vessel by either MCI or by the RO issuing relevant MARPOL certificates on behalf of the Cook Islands.

Manufacturers, owners and managers can address their queries to the following email address:
technical@maritimecookislands.com