

Commonwealth of Dominica**Office of the Maritime Administrator**

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, MOBILE OFFSHORE DRILLING UNITS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

SUBJECT: REGISTRY OF VESSELS OF TWENTY (20) YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER UNDER DOMINICA FLAG

REFERENCE: (a) Dominica International Maritime Act 2000, section 30

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Safety Circular is to provide guidance to Ship-owners and Operators of vessels wishing to enter Dominica Maritime Registry on the conditions for documentation or re-documentation of vessels of twenty (20) years of age or older.

APPLICABILITY: Vessels of twenty (20) years of age or above wishing to enter Dominica Maritime Registry, as follows:

Yachts, fishing vessels, or vessels required to comply with the International Convention on Load Lines 1966 or with any Regulations made by the Minister, eligible for registration with Commonwealth of Dominica, under the provisions of Chapter 1 of the Dominica International Maritime Act 2000.

REQUIREMENTS:

1 A vessel, to which this Circular applies, is not eligible for initial or consecutive registration under Dominica flag if, on January 1 of the year in which initial or consecutive registration is sought, that vessel is over twenty (20) years of age, computed from completion of first construction, save in circumstances specified below.

2 The 20-year maximum age limitation in section 1 may be waived at the discretion of the Maritime Administrator and a vessel of over twenty (20) years of age may be registered or re-registered if:

- .1 the vessel meets all other applicable requirements;

- .2 the vessel complies with standards set in SOLAS, MARPOL and other international instruments Commonwealth of Dominica is party to; and
 - .3 it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that there is a genuine need for such waiver.
- 3** No waiver referred to in section 2 above shall be granted for a vessel:
- .1 of twenty (20) years of age or over, unless it satisfactorily completes a General Condition Survey, conducted by an organization properly authorized by the Maritime Administrator;
 - .2 of twenty-five (25) years of age or over, unless it is classed with a member of International Association of Classification Societies; and
 - .3 of thirty (30) years of age or over, at any time.
- 4** Conditions set in section 3 above may be subject to reconsideration by Maritime Administrator under special circumstances, where it has been satisfactorily demonstrated that there is a genuine need for such waiver.

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