



ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR N° REG 001 – Rev.1

Additional procedure for registration and change of Flag surveys

TO: SHIPOWNERS, SHIPS' OPERATORS AND MANAGERS, SURVEYORS TO FLAG STATE AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

APPLICABLE TO: ALL VESSELS

EFFECTIVE AS FROM: Date of this Circular

10th September 2014

All vessels applying for registration under St. Vincent and The Grenadines' Flag should comply with the following procedure:

1. Vessels older than 18 years (15 years for tankers) are not eligible for registration unless a preliminary Flag State survey by an accredited surveyor to this Administration (**not a surveyor from a Classification Society**) is performed. However, this survey does not guarantee the registration. The Classification Society should also issue a document confirming the vessel's classification and list all applicable Conventions the vessel is in compliance with as well as any known outstanding deficiencies. Other surveys should be carried out according to the instructions below which remain applicable.
2. Regardless of whether the Company remains the same as before or a change occurs, no vessel should be registered with any outstanding recommendation. In case a deviation from this policy is requested, it should be invariably referred to this Administration for consideration and relevant instructions.
3. In both cases, at the time of the change of Flag, if the due dates for the surveys for existing class and statutory certificates are within the \pm three (3) months' window, then renewal/ intermediate/periodical/annual surveys, as the case may be, should be carried out immediately.
4. When the change of Flag is not accompanied by a change of Company, the surveys should be limited in scope to the extent of the applicable annual survey unless the due dates of the statutory surveys are within the window mentioned above.
5. When the change of Flag is accompanied by a change of Company, the extent of the surveys in respect of safety equipment should be upgraded to that of a renewal survey. Unless falling within the windows mentioned in paragraph 1.2 above, surveys for the statutory certificates other than the safety equipment, should be carried out to the extent of annual surveys.
6. For vessels which have been detained by Port State Control more than twice during the year elapsed, the Classification Society should issue, prior to the change of Flag, a document confirming that the vessel is in a seaworthy condition and complies with all the provisions of the applicable International Conventions. The procedure for the change of Flag remains as mentioned in 1.1, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5.

Note for Classification Societies

The Statutory Survey Reports for a change of Flag surveys should be forwarded as soon as possible to this Administration either in hard copy or by e-mail or through the access to the Classification Society's data base.