



Memo No. TDM002-2023

To: Shipowners, ISM Operators and Deputy Registrars

Re: Focus on Ships with Mechanical and Electrical Failures by PSCOs in Qingdao and Shanghai Ports.

Recall: Our MMN-23-001 concerning preventive, corrective and reactive actions for PSC inspections and detentions.

Date: 12 July 2023

The Belize Maritime Administration takes this opportunity to inform all Shipowners/ISM Operators of the recent announcement made by Qingdao and Shanghai ports' Local authorities. What is more, we have noted that across the whole of China, there has been tighter control on ships with mechanical and electrical failures, resulting in these ships being detained consecutively following PSC inspections.

In line with these tighter measures, the Belize Administration has noticed an uptick in the detentions of our ships in the Tokyo MOU in general and at Chinese Ports in particular. These detentions are unacceptable to us and possess a direct threat to our intended goal of maintaining our Grey List status or moving onto the whitelist. In response, our Administration has decided to implement measures included in the actions required section on this Memo.

PORT NOTICE

Qingdao Port

The local authorities issued a notice to ships via local agents informing ships to focus more on safety management, particularly on main engine, steering engine, and boiler etc., which need to be properly tested and checked before entering or leaving the port, to avoid delay to ships' schedule due to PSC inspection resulting from mechanical and electrical failures. A "Self-checklist for Ships Intending to Enter Qingdao Port" is attached to the notice suggesting nine items (falling into three categories: M/E & A/E, Main and Emergency Power, and Steering Gear) are to be checked in advance.

It is noted that Qingdao MSA plans to establish a "list" of ships which are continuously found with mechanical and electrical failure or main engine failure. Enhanced supervision may apply to ships owners or managers on the "list". Meanwhile, they will also strengthen on-site supervision and inspection to ships' mechanical and electrical equipment in the future.

Shanghai Port

Ships will be detained by PSCOs if found with mechanical and electrical failures or main engine malfunction and will not be permitted to depart until the rectification is made.

Also, Wusong MSA issued a similar notice announcing enhanced safety inspection to ships entering Shanghai section of Yangtze River. Ships are required to test main engine, steering system and emergency equipment etc. to ensure they are in good working condition. Starting from 01 April 2023, the following procedures need to be followed:

Ships with mechanical and electrical failures or accident records within one year in Shanghai port are requested to conduct testing and inspection of critical equipment such as main engine, steering system, and emergency equipment, strictly in accordance with the requirement, four hours in advance before entering Yangtze River Shanghai section on each voyage.

Documentation of self-testing and inspection such as forms, logs, pictures or video records (pictures and videos must be with marks of date & time) should be well kept, and failure in providing such supporting evidence during Wusong VTS' random check may lead to delay in entering into the port.

A "Self-checklist for Ships Intending to Enter the Yangtze River Shanghai Section" is also attached to the notice, listing ten items (almost identical with Qingdao port's list) to be checked in advance.

Besides, as advised in our Circular 2303, new regulations on prevention and control of ship pollution in Shanghai and ports on Yangtze River came into force on 01 March 2023, which leads to strengthened supervision on ships' discharge of domestic sewage, domestic waste and oily sewage, etc.

Other ports

At this moment, there has not been any particular requirement for ships to carry out self-testing and inspection of mechanical and electrical equipment or main engine etc. before arrival. However, in case of distress or hindrance to maritime traffic safety due to mechanical and electrical failures, ships may be detained by local authorities for further inspection.

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY ALL OPERATORS CALLING TOKYO MOU PORTS

Technical Department of the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) requires that ALL vessel's calling Tokyo MOU ports must comply with the following:

1. All Shipowners, ISM Operators shall bring the attention of their ship master of the content of this Memo.
2. With immediate effect, **all vessels calling any Chinese Ports shall complete the attached self-inspection report seen in Annex 1** of this Memo.

3. A copy of this self-inspection shall be kept on board and provided to local authorities upon request.
4. In addition, a copy of the self-inspection (Annex 1) shall be sent to our Administration at inspections@immarbe.com
5. This Memo shall not affect the currently enforced **MMN-19-006r3** and **Form TDL-018r4 Annex 1 –Self-Inspection C checklist** remains in force and shall be submitted on a monthly basis.
6. Failure to properly implement this Memo on any vessel calling Chinese Ports without completing the attached self-inspection will be subject to **disciplinary measures** in accordance with our *Statutory Instrument No. 56 of 1999, Registration of Merchant Ships Disciplinary Regulations 1999*. This Warning Notice is attached to this Memo.

This Notice is with immediate effect; therefore, we expect your full compliance with the Local authority requirement when calling Chinese Ports and your submission of [Annex 1 Self-Inspection Checklist](#) required.

We anticipate your cooperation and assistance in this regard and look forward to receiving confirmation of this email.



Eng. Eduardo Simon
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International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize

