



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

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MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-6/2018/1

09/2024

FOR: Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Recognized Organizations, Flag State Inspectors

SUBJECT: SHIPBOARD DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE POLICY

PURPOSE:

This circular serves to provide the requirements for a Shipboard Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy to be implemented on board Tuvalu flagged vessels.

REFERENCES:

- (a) Tuvalu Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention 2006) Regulations
- (b) Tuvalu Merchant Shipping Act
- (c) International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended (STCW Convention)
- (d) ILO publication "Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programmes in the Maritime Industry (A Manual for Planners) (revised)"

APPLICATION:

This circular applies to all Tuvalu flagged vessels.

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In accordance with the STCW Convention, drug and alcohol abuse directly affects the fitness and ability of a seafarer to perform watchkeeping duties or duties that involve designated safety, security and prevention of pollution duties. Seafarers found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol should not be permitted to perform the above-mentioned duties until they are no longer impaired in their ability to perform those duties.

For the purpose of preventing alcohol abuse, seafarers shall comply with the following requirements:

1. a maximum limit of 0.05% blood alcohol level (BAC) or 0.25 mg/l alcohol in the breath during watchkeeping duties including designated safety, security and prevention of pollution duties; and
2. prohibition of consumption of alcohol within 4 hours prior to serving as a member of a watch.

It shall be ensured that adequate measures are taken to prevent alcohol and drugs from impairing the ability of watchkeeping personnel, and there shall be a Shipboard Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy implemented on board and included in the Company's quality-management system (ISM Code).

Those involved in establishing drug and alcohol prevention programmes should take into account the guidance contained in the ILO publication "Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programmes in the Maritime Industry (A Manual for Planners)", as amended, of which Appendix 2 of the Manual includes the "ILO/WHO Guiding Principles on Drug and Alcohol Testing Procedures for Worldwide Application in the Maritime Industry".

Deputy Registrar
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