



NIUE SHIP REGISTRY

Website: www.niueship.com

ISSUANCE OF STATUTORY & EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES AND THE APPROVAL OF DOCUMENTS (Circular NMC2.2021 (rev0))

PURPOSE: Provides Niue's requirements on the issuance of Statutory (and Exemption) certificates and the approval of documents by Recognized Organizations (ROs) and should serve as a supplement to the agreements between the ROs and Niue where applicable.

APPLICATION: This marine circular applies to all Niue-flagged vessels and ROs.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

1. IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1395/Rev.2 – List of Solid Bulk Cargoes for which a Fixed Gas Fire-Extinguishing System may be Exempted or for which a Fixed Gas Fire-Extinguishing System is ineffective, dated 12 June 2015, as revised
2. IMO Circular FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 – Guidelines for the use of Electronic Certificates, dated 20 April 2016, as revised
3. IACS Recommendation No.98/Rev.3 – Duties of Surveyors under Statutory Conventions and Codes, dated June 2019, as revised
4. SOLAS – The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, as amended

REQUIREMENTS:

A. Distinctive Numbers of Letters

ROs should use the vessel's allocated "Call Sign" in the "Distinctive Number or Letters" field of statutory/exemption certificates issued on behalf of Niue whenever available, and where a vessel is not assigned a "Call Sign", then ROs should replace the field with the vessel's "Official Number".

B. Statutory Certificates

1. INT STAT (Interim Statutory Certificate)
 - 1.1. INT STATs, with validity generally not exceeding 5 months, may be issued by the RO in the following cases:
 - 1.1.1. After satisfactory survey to permit the vessel to operate while Full-Term certificates are being prepared; and
 - 1.1.2. Where a change of flag and/or ownership has taken place with no change of RO necessitating the re-issuance of Full-Term certificates for the balance term of the existing certificates.
 - 1.2. The INT STATs mentioned above should not be confused with those issued under the ISM and ISPS Codes and MLC2006 which allow ships to operate during the implementation periods allotted.
2. FT STAT (Full-Term Statutory Certificate)
 - 2.1. FT STATs, in the format and validity prescribed by the applicable IMO Convention, may be issued by the RO in the following cases:
 - 2.1.1. Satisfactory completion of an initial or periodical/renewal survey indicating that the vessel and its equipment meet the applicable provisions of a particular convention; and

2.1.2. After revalidation when all deficiencies, which may have led to the issuance of a Short-Term/Conditional certificate, have been rectified.

3. ST/CND STAT (Short Term/Conditional Statutory Certificate)

3.1. ST/CND STATs, with validity not exceeding 3 months unless specified by NSR, may only be issued after obtaining NSR's approval to allow a vessel to sail with deficiencies that cannot be corrected at the port of survey and be permanently rectified at the next port.

3.2. Where the deficiencies are detainable or seriously undermine safety, the ship owner shall:

3.2.1. Arrange for temporary measures, to the satisfaction of the RO, to downgrade the deficiency to a minor status.

3.2.2. Submit a proposal for corrective action(s) to the RO who shall review and provide clear recommendations for the rectification of the deficiencies to NSR for approval to issue a ST/CND STAT which shall replace the FT STAT until the deficiency is rectified and verified by the RO.

3.3. ROs shall monitor and follow up on all ST/CND STATs issued to ensure that recommendations are complied with and eventual permanent rectification of the deficiencies for re-issuance of FT STAT.

3.4. All request to NSR for approval of issuance of ST/CND STAT shall be directed to technical@tvship.com and shall be submitted with all the necessary information mentioned in para 3.2.2 above for consideration.

3.5. The ST STATs mentioned here should not be confused with those issued under the ISM and ISPS Codes which allow ships to operate after successful audits for safety management systems and security plans while Full-Term certification is being prepared.

C. Exemption Certificates

1. Exemption Certificates may be issued by ROs after obtaining NSR's approval.

2. All requests for exemptions submitted to NSR by ROs prior to a vessel's delivery shall be accompanied by evidence that the Shipowner / Operator has been consulted on the matter and is in agreement with the request.

3. ROs may, without NSR's approval, reissue an Exemption Certificate during a Renewal Survey after verifying that the conditions for its issuance are still satisfied.

D. Submission of Statutory / Exemption Certificates & Survey Reports

1. A copy of all Statutory / Exemption Certificates issued on behalf of Niue, and Reports of all surveys carried out on Niue-flagged vessels should be submitted to NSR by the RO either by email (technical@niueship.com) or by providing NSR access to the RO's online database.

2. ROs who require NSR to access an online database to access the above documents should notify NSR at technical@niueship.com whenever access is necessary.

3. Submission of the above documents in electronic format is accepted so long as the electronic format complies to IMO FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2.

E. Approval of Documents (after change of Flag or RO)

The following documents do not need to be re-approved upon change of flag or RO if they have been previously approved by another Administration signatory to the Convention or another RO of NSR:

1. Cargo Securing Manual
2. Technical File for Marine Diesel Engine
3. Oil Discharge Monitoring System

4. ODME Manual
5. Ship Structure Access Manual
6. STS Operation Plan
7. Ballast Water Management Plan, D1 standard (D2 to be re-approved), in force from 8th September 2017
8. Volatile Organic Compounds Management Plan (VOC)
9. Document of approval for the Stability Instrument (applicable at the first scheduled renewal survey of the ship on or after 1st January 2016, but no later than 1st January 2021)
10. SOPEPs and SMPEPs

F. Use of E-STAT (Electronic Statutory Certificate) on board Niue-flagged ships

1. To facilitate greater administrative and operational efficiencies, ROs are authorized to issue E-STATs to replace the traditional paper statutory certificates on Niue-flagged vessels if requested by the Shipowner/ Operator on condition that the electronic statutory certificates issued comply with IMO FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2.
2. The E-STAT issued by ROs which comply with IMO FAL.5/Circ.39/Rev.2 to Niue-flagged vessels shall be deemed valid in accordance with all applicable international instruments that Niue is a party to.
3. Shipowners / Operators who wish to be issued with E-STAT should check if their RO is ready for E-STAT and take into consideration that clearance requirements may differ for at the ports that the vessel calls at.
4. Shipowners / Operators may apply to NSR for a letter of approval for the carriage of E-STAT in-lieu of traditional paper certificates to be placed on board the vessel as an additional measure to facilitate acceptance by other port authorities if deemed necessary.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Registry at technical@niueship.com or call: +65 6226-2001 for further assistance.