

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
(Ministry of Maritime Affairs)



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Shipping Information Notice – No. 027
Gibraltar Maritime Administration – Argentine Presidential Decree On Maritime Transport (NO.256/2010)

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Masters, Officers, Local Representatives

ARGENTINE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ON MARITIME TRANSPORT (NO.256/2010)

1. The Argentine Government has issued a Presidential Decree on Maritime Transport (no.256/2010) requiring ships to apply for "authorisation" from the Argentine Coast Guard in the following circumstances:-

- a) Where they are travelling between ports in Argentina and ports in the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands;
- b) Going through Argentine "jurisdictional waters" on the way to ports in Falkland Islands, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands, or;
- c) Ships loading goods to be carried directly or indirectly to ports in the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands.

2. The UK Government has firmly rejected the legality of the Decree in respect of UNCLOS and other international laws and has issued a formal protest to the Government of the Republic of Argentina.

3. If a Gibraltar-registered vessel is affected by the Decree, the operators are advised to inform the Argentine authorities that the UK Government has firmly rejected the legality of the Decree and therefore they do not recognise any requirement to comply with its provisions.

4.If operators of these vessels feel compelled to comply with the Decree, the advice of UK and Gibraltar authorities is that they should do so only under strong protest and, at the earliest opportunity, notify the UK authorities at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (Tel: +44 20 7008 1500, email response@fco.gov.uk), with a copy of any correspondence to the Gibraltar Maritime Administration (maritime.registry@gibraltar.gov.gi).

Alan Cubbin
Maritime Administrator

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