

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
(Ministry of Maritime Affairs)



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Shipping Information Notice – No. 045

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

Fraudulent Port State Control Requests for Ship's Information

Introduction

The Gibraltar Maritime Administration (GMA) has been advised of incidents involving requests for ship's information from parties claiming to be representatives of Port State Control (PSC).

The GMA wishes to bring the information referenced in Paragraph 2 to the attention of all interested parties.

Description

A Gibraltar registered ship has recently received a message allegedly from a PSC Port Captain requesting various ships' information.

In addition, the Danish Maritime Authority advised the Caribbean MoU that a Dutch ship received a message, allegedly from a PSC Captain at the Danish port of Esbjerg, also requesting various ships' information. Cyprus alerted Paris MoU of a similar message in 2014, allegedly from a PSC Captain at the Cypriot port of Limassol.

In all cases, the alleged PSC officer did not exist and the messages were not sent from the respective PSC Authorities. The messages were sent from the email address government@portstatecontrol.co.

The messages requested various ships' details including waste notification and port services with pre-arrival notification form with the official crew list form and approved by master.

It is believed that the intention is to obtain documents with the signature of the Master and the ship's stamp. The signature and stamp are then transferred to a fictional bill for services allegedly done in the port, which is presented to the shipowner for payment.

Masters of Gibraltar registered ships are requested to take note of the above and advised to treat any messages received from the address government@portstatecontrol.co with suspicion.

The authenticity of any such emails should be checked with the ship's agents and/or local authorities. The GMA requests that any such emails are forwarded to the Maritime Survey department - maritime.survey@gibraltar.gov.gi.

Richard Montado
Maritime Administrator

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