



# Gibraltar Maritime Administration

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## Shipping Guidance Notice – 135 SOLAS Chapter XV, 01 July 2024, and the International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial personnel (IP) Code

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To: Ship Owners, Operators, Master's and Crew

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### 1 Introduction

- 1.1. The purpose of this Shipping Guidance Notice (SGN) is to provide guidance to Gibraltar registered ships on the upcoming SOLAS Chapter XV, and subsequent IP Code, due to enter into force on 01 July 2024.
- 1.2. Furthermore, this SGN provides guidance and sets out Gibraltar's requirements for ships currently authorised by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel in accordance with the interim recommendations contained within Resolution MSC.418(97).

### 2. Definitions

- 2.1. "Industrial personnel" means all persons transported or accommodated on board for the purpose of offshore industrial activities performed on board other ships and/or offshore facilities.
- 2.2. "Carriage" means transportation, accommodation or both.

### 3. Application

- 3.1. SOLAS Chapter XV, and the IP Code applies to cargo ships and high-speed cargo craft, of 500 gross tonnage and upwards constructed on or after 01 July 2024, which carry more than 12 industrial personnel.
- 3.2. Cargo ships constructed before 01 July 2024, may be authorized by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel in accordance with the interim recommendations contained within Resolution MSC.418(97). Such ships shall comply with regulations III/1, III/2 (except for paragraph 2.1.7), IV/7 and IV/8 of the IP Code by the first intermediate or renewal survey, whichever occurs first, after 1 July 2024.
- 3.3. High-speed cargo craft constructed before 01 July 2024, may be authorized by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel in accordance with the interim recommendations contained within Resolution MSC.418(97). Such ships shall comply with regulations III/1, III/2 (except for paragraph 2.1.7), V/7 and V/8 of the IP Code by the third periodical or first renewal survey, whichever occurs first, after 1 July 2024.
- 3.4. Cargo ships and high-speed cargo craft, irrespective of date of construction, which prior to the 01 July 2024 have not been authorized by the Administration to carry more than 12 industrial personnel based on the interim recommendations contained within Resolution MSC.418(97), shall comply and be certified in accordance with SOLAS Chapter XV and the IP Code prior to the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel on board.

#### **4. Ships currently authorised by the Administration**

- 4.1. To date, the Gibraltar Maritime Administration has on a case by case basis authorised individual Gibraltar registered ships for the carriage of more than 12 industrial personnel, via issuance of a Flag State permit.
- 4.2. Mindful of the upcoming effective date of SOLAS Chapter XV, and the IP Code, and the transitional compliance requirements as highlighted by sections 2.2 & 2.3 above for vessels currently authorised by the Administration, The Gibraltar Maritime Administration will require RO's duly authorised for SPS Code 2008, to undertake a verification of vessels currently authorised by the Administration under the interim recommendations contained within Resolution MSC.418(97), in respect of the following:
  - 4.2.1. Vessel holds valid Special Purpose Ship (SPS) 2008 certification;
  - 4.2.2. Compliance with the requirements contained within IMO Resolution MSC.418(97), section 4;
  - 4.2.3. Personnel transfers shall take into account the guidance contained within MSC-MEPC.7/Circ.10, and IMO Resolution A.1045(27);
  - 4.2.4. Sleeping rooms allocated to Industrial Personnel shall not impact on the sleeping arrangements of the vessel's crew in respect of MLC 2006 requirements.
- 4.3. Subject to successful compliance verification as per section 3.2 above, the RO shall issue a Statement of Compliance to the effect on behalf of the Gibraltar Maritime Administration, for the same validity period as that of the expiry date of the associated SPS Code 2008 Certificate. A copy of the SOC is to be forwarded to the Administration, which upon receipt, any existing permit as described in section 3.1 above will be withdrawn.
- 4.4. The verification required under section 3.2 above, may be undertaken by the RO via established remote means, providing such means provide an equivalent level of verification as a physical attendance.
- 4.5. Owners/operators of ships currently authorised via the issuance of a Flag State permit, should contact the RO responsible for the issuance of the SPS Code 2008 Certificate to request the verification as per section 3.2 above.

#### **5. Ships not currently authorised by the Administration**

- 5.1. Owners/operators of existing ships not currently authorised via the issuance of a Flag State permit, and which fulfil the criteria of the section 3.2.1 to 3.2.4 above, and which prior to 01 July 2024 may wish to engage in the carriage of industrial personnel under the interim provisions of IMO Resolution MSC.418(97), should in the first instance contact the RO responsible for the issuance of the SPS Code 2008 Certificate, requesting verification as per section 3.2 above.

Steve Gomez  
Chief Surveyor (Ag)

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All notices are available through [www.gibraltarship.com](http://www.gibraltarship.com)

*This copy of the Administrative Instruction has been sent electronically and does not carry a signature or official stamp. A sign and stamped copy will be available upon enquiry*