



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 7-038-1

Rev. Apr/2026

**TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF
MERCHANT SHIPS, AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

**SUBJECT: Periodically Unattended Machinery Spaces – Requirements for Safety of
Operation and Reduced Manning**

- References:**
- (a) SOLAS, *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea*, Consolidated Edition 2024
 - (b) IMO Resolution [A.325\(X\)](#), *Recommendation Concerning Regulations for Machinery and Electrical Installations in Passenger and Cargo Ships*, adopted 12 November 1975
 - (c) IMO Resolution [A.1047\(27\)](#), *Principles of Minimum Safe Manning*, adopted 30 November 2011

PURPOSE

This Marine Notice (MN) provides the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator's (the "Administrator") manning policy for the safe operation of vessels with automated machinery installations. This MN supersedes Rev. Mar/2021 to reflect revisions made throughout the document, including the addition of Türk Loydu notations in §1.3.

APPLICABILITY

Vessels with machinery installations approved by an authorized Classification Society for the assignment of the Periodically Unattended Machinery Spaces (PUMS) notation may be considered by the Administrator for reduced engineering manning levels, subject to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Regulation V/14 and International Maritime Organization (IMO) Resolution [A.1047\(27\)](#).

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 Periodically Unattended Machinery Space Installations

- 1.1 Requirements for the installation and operation of PUMS are governed by SOLAS Chapter II-1, Part E. While these requirements are generally reflected in Classification Society Rules, certain provisions may exceed current Class requirements and must, where reasonable and practicable, be incorporated into the installation.
- 1.2 When a certain requirement of SOLAS Chapter II-1, Part E is considered unreasonable, impracticable, or not applicable to a particular vessel, the Administrator may consider waiving the requirement upon request by the owner.
- 1.3 The applicable notations are:

Classification Society	Notations
American Bureau of Shipping	AMS, ACCU
Bureau Veritas	AUT-UMS, AUT-CSS, AUT-IMS
China Classification Society	AUT-0
ClassNK	M0
Croatian Register of Shipping	AUT1, AUT2, AUT3
DNV	E0, AUT/UMS
Indian Register of Shipping	IW, AUT/UMS
Korean Register	UMS
Lloyd's Register	UMS
Polski Rejestr Statkow	UMS
RINA Service S.p.A.	UMS, AUT-UMS, AUT-CSS, AVM
Türk Loydu	AUT, AUT-nh, AUT-C

2.0 Reduction allowance

Any reduction in engineering manning may be considered for vessels classed for PUMS, considering the vessel's particular machinery and area of operation. In general, reductions may apply to the number of Assistant Engineer Officers and Oilers normally required on vessels:

- .1 of 3,000 kilowatts (kW) (4,000 horsepower (HP)) and above;
- .2 below 3,000 kW; and
- .3 below 750 kW (1,000 HP).

Each case will be assessed individually, and any reduction must be subject to approval by the Administrator, having due regard to operational safety and the provisions of safe manning.

3.0 Certification

Any approved reduction in engineering manning must be reflected in the vessel's Minimum Safe Manning Certificate. The use of dispensations for reduced manning is not intended as a routine measure and must be limited to exceptional circumstances, subject to approval by the Administrator.

4.0 Examinations

4.1 Authorized Surveyors

All examinations of PUMS must be carried out by authorized surveyors of the relevant Classification Society, in accordance with the applicable Class Rules.

4.2 Annual Examination

Periodic and annual examinations of the PUMS arrangements must be conducted at intervals prescribed by the Classification Society's Rules. These examinations must verify the proper functioning of automation, alarm, safety, and control systems associated with unattended machinery space operation.