



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 2-011-10

Rev. Jul/2018

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

SUBJECT: Fire Control Plans, Escape Route Signs, and Life-Saving Symbols

- References**
- (a) SOLAS, *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 2014 Consolidated Edition*, as amended
 - (b) IMO Resolution [A.1116\(30\)](#), *Escape Route Signs and Equipment Location Markings*, adopted 06 December 2017
 - (c) IMO Resolution [A.952\(23\)](#), *Graphical Symbols for Shipboard Fire Control Plans*, adopted 05 December 2003
 - (d) IMO Resolution [A.760\(18\)](#), *Symbols Related to Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements*, adopted 04 November 1993, as amended by IMO Resolution [MSC.82\(70\)](#), *Amendments to Resolution A.760(18) on Symbols Related to Life-Saving Appliances and Arrangements*, adopted 11 December 1998
 - (e) IMO Resolution [A.654\(16\)](#), *Graphical Symbols for Fire Control Plans*, adopted 19 October 1989
 - (f) IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.451](#), *Guidance Concerning the Location of Fire Control Plans for the Assistance of Shoreside Fire-Fighting Personnel*, issued 24 September 1986
 - (g) RMI Yacht Code ([MI-103](#))

PURPOSE

This Notice provides the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) requirements and policies on the symbols, signage, and markings to be used in the establishment of fire control plans and with life-saving appliances and arrangements. It supersedes Rev. 03/16, incorporating requirements from International Maritime Organization (IMO) Resolution [A.1116\(30\)](#), *Escape Route Signs and Equipment Location Markings*.

APPLICABILITY

This Marine Notice is for all RMI-flagged vessels to which the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) II-2 and III applies.

It also applies to yachts covered by the *RMI Yacht Code* (MI-103)¹:

- a. Commercial Yachts;
- b. Private Yachts Limited Charter;
- c. Private Yachts Engaged in Trade; and
- d. Passenger Yachts.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 Fire Control Plans

1.1 2019 and Post-2019 Construction

Shipboard Fire Control Plans required by SOLAS II-2/15.2.4 must be prepared using the escape route signs and equipment location markings of IMO Resolution [A.1116\(30\)](#) in combination with resolution [A.952\(23\)](#). See §2.1 for applicability details.

1.2 2004 and Post-2004 Construction

All vessels with keels laid on or after 01 January 2004 must use the symbols contained in IMO Resolution A.952(23) in their Fire Control Plans in accordance with SOLAS II-2/15.2.4.1.

1.3 Pre-2004 Existing Vessels

Vessels with keels laid before 01 January 2004 are not required to revise their Fire Control Plans, provided their shipboard symbols are in compliance with those contained in IMO Resolution [A.654\(16\)](#).

1.4 Storage of Plans Outside the Deckhouse for Shore-Side Fire-fighting Personnel

A duplicate set of fire control plans or a booklet containing such plans must be permanently stored in a prominently marked watertight enclosure outside the deckhouse for the assistance of shore-side fire-fighting personnel in accordance with SOLAS II-2/15.2.4.2. (See guidance concerning the location and marking of the fire control plans contained in [MSC.1/Circ.451](#) for compliance.)

2.0 Escape Route Signs, Life Saving Symbols and Equipment Location Markings

2.1 The escape route signs, life-saving symbols and equipment location markings in IMO

¹ This is a national requirement for non-SOLAS vessels.

Resolution A.1116(30) must be used where appropriate on:

- 2.1.1 ships constructed on or after 01 January 2019; or
- 2.1.2 ships which undergo repairs, alterations, modifications and outfitting within the scope of SOLAS II-2 and/or III, as applicable, on or after 01 January 2019.
- 2.2 Fire Protection (SOLAS II-2)
 - 2.2.1 Escape route signs and fire equipment location markings must be of photoluminescent material or marked by lighting. This is applicable to:
 - .1 Passenger Ships, per SOLAS II-2/13.3.2.5
 - .2 Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, per Chapter 9.4 of the *Code for the Construction and Equipment of Mobile Offshore Drilling Units, 2009*, as amended; and for
 - .3 High Speed Craft, it is recommended where low-location lighting systems are installed, per IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1102](#), *Interpretations of the 2000 HSC Code and SOLAS Chapter X*, Annex 1, Section 4.7.10.
 - 2.2.2 On cargo ships, the control stations of fixed firefighting systems and portable firefighting equipment, including when they are stowed in lockers or containers, must correspond to the symbols illustrated in the respective plan(s). The marking, if not of a photoluminescent type, must be at least in “like color” to that shown in the plan(s).
- 2.3 Lifesaving (SOLAS III)
 - 2.3.1 The Administrator’s policy is that compliance with IMO Resolution [A.760\(18\)](#), as amended by IMO Resolution [MSC.82\(70\)](#), is mandatory for all vessels to meet SOLAS III/9.2.3.
 - 2.3.2 Stowage locations for life-saving equipment must meet SOLAS III/20.10. They must be marked with symbols according to IMO Resolution A.760(18), as amended by MSC.82(70).
 - 2.3.3 See also §2.1.

3.0 Compliance

- 3.1 The most up-to-date symbols, signage, and markings, as applicable, must be used. This will be verified by Recognized Organizations during the fire control plan review and revision processes and before giving approval to life-saving appliances and arrangements.²

² This is a national requirement.

- 3.2 Should practical difficulties arise in affixing the symbols, the Administrator may be approached with alternative proposals for its consideration.