



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

Marine Notice

No. 7-041-5

May/2024

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

SUBJECT: Electronic Record Books and Logbook Systems

- References:**
- (a) **SOLAS**, *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea*, Consolidated Edition 2020
 - (b) **MARPOL**, *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships*, Consolidated Edition 2022
 - (c) **NOx Technical Code**, *Code on Control of Emission of Nitrogen Oxides from Marine Diesel Engines*
 - (d) **IMO Assembly Resolution A.916(22)**, *Guidelines for the Recording of Events Related to Navigation*, adopted 22 Jan 2002
 - (e) **IMO Assembly Resolution A.1185(33)**, *Procedures for Port State Control, 2023*, adopted on 6 December 2023
 - (f) **IMO Resolution MEPC.312(74)**, *Guidelines for the Use of Electronic Record Books under MARPOL*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (g) **IMO Resolution MEPC.314(74)**, *Amendments to MARPOL Annexes I, II, and V (Electronic Record Books)*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (h) **IMO Resolution MEPC.316(74)**, *Amendments to MARPOL Annex VI Electronic Books and EEDI regulations for Ice-strengthened Ships*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (i) **IMO Resolution MEPC.317(74)**, *Amendments to the NOx Technical Code 2008 (Electronic Record Books and Certification Requirements for SCR systems)*, adopted 17 May 2019
 - (j) **RMI Maritime Regulations**, (MI-108)

PURPOSE

This Marine Notice (MN) establishes the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator's (the "Administrator") requirements for using Electronic Record Books (ERBs) and other logbook systems to electronically record required operations. It implements the latest requirements for the approval and use of ERBs under MARPOL and the NOx Technical Code 2008.

This version supersedes Jul/2022. Section 3.3 has been amended to reference the latest version of the procedures for port State control, IMO Assembly Resolution [A.1185\(33\)](#) *Procedures for Port State Control, 2023*.

APPLICABILITY

These requirements apply to all RMI-flagged vessels which use MARPOL ERBs or other logbook systems to electronically record required operations.

BACKGROUND

IMO adopted amendments to MARPOL and the NO_x Technical Code allowing ERBs to be used since 1 October 2020 instead of hard copy record books¹. Associated guidelines for the use of MARPOL ERBs were also adopted.²

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 General

- 1.1 Electronic record and logbooks are permitted to be used under the [Maritime Regulations](#), §7.41.2(g). They must be approved by the Administrator **only** where required by international convention. See §2.0, below.
- 1.2 If switching over to MARPOL ERBs or other electronic logbooks, vessels must continue to preserve their existing hard copy books for a minimum of three years after the last entry is made, unless otherwise required. See [Maritime Regulations](#), §7.41.2(h), and Marine Guideline [2-13-3](#) for additional information.
- 1.3 ERBs and electronic logbooks must take into consideration all relevant international standards.
- 1.4 Seafarers' documentation and records are permitted to be kept electronically provided companies continue to maintain them according to the recordkeeping requirements in STCW Regulation I/14.1.4.³
- 1.5 RMI-flagged ships must comply with coastal State regulations and, therefore, may want to check with their local agent on port State acceptance of MARPOL ERBs and other electronic logbooks.

2.0 MARPOL ERBs

2.1 Usage

ERBs may be used on board to meet the following record book and recording requirements under the MARPOL Annexes and the NO_x Technical Code:

- .1 Oil Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex I, Regulations 17.1 and 36.1);

1. IMO Resolutions [MEPC.314\(74\)](#), [MEPC.316\(74\)](#), and [MEPC.317\(74\)](#).

2. IMO Resolution [MEPC.312\(74\)](#).

3. International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, (STCW) Regulation I/14.1.4.

- .2 Cargo Record Book (MARPOL Annex II, Regulation 15.1);
- .3 Garbage Record Book, parts I and II (MARPOL Annex V, Regulation 10.3);
- .4 Ozone-Depleting Substances (ODS) Record Book (MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 12.6). Existing electronic recording systems for rechargeable systems containing ODS can only be considered an ERB if the system is approved by the Administrator. This must occur before the first International Air Pollution Prevention (IAPP) renewal survey carried out on or after 1 October 2020, but not later than 1 October 2025.
- .5 Recording of the tier and on or off status of marine diesel engines (MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 13.5.3);
- .6 Record of Fuel Oil Changeover (MARPOL Annex VI, Regulation 14.6); and
- .7 Record Book of Engine Parameters (NOx Technical Code, paragraph 6.2.2.7).

2.2 Administrator-Approved Software Providers

MARPOL ERB approval will be based on software conforming with IMO Resolution [MEPC.312\(74\)](#).

- .1 Click [here](#) for a list of Administrator-approved MARPOL ERB Software Providers.
- .2 To seek approval for MARPOL ERB software, email: eRecordBooks@register-iri.com.

2.3 Onboard Declaration

- .1 Every vessel with an approved MARPOL ERB installed must carry a *Declaration of MARPOL Electronic Record Book(s)*. This Declaration is not necessary while a MARPOL ERB is undergoing testing, only once it has been approved.
- .2 To apply for the Declaration, complete an application in the RMI MARPOL Electronic Record Books [portal](#).
- .3 The Administrator will review the application. A *Declaration of MARPOL Electronic Record Book(s)* will be issued as appropriate.

3.0 Documentation for Port State Control

- 3.1 Using MARPOL ERBs or other logbook systems to electronically record required operations does not reduce shipowners' existing duties to accurately record, maintain, and produce records during an inspection per international requirements.
- 3.2 The MARPOL ERB must have the capability to produce a hard copy of verified records for the Master to certify as a true copy on request from relevant authorities.
- 3.3 The following documentation must be carried on board and be presented on request during a port State control boarding or other authorized vessel inspection:
 - .1 The Administrator's Declaration for Use of the MARPOL ERBs.
 - .2 For systems other than MARPOL ERBs, a declaration from the supplier's installation contractor, that the system is installed according to current regulations, is performance tested, and found to be in full functioning order.
 - .3 If a declaration or written authorization cannot be provided, a hard copy record book must be presented for examination. Refer to IMO Assembly Resolution [A.1185\(33\)](#), *Procedures for Port State Control*, 2023.
 - .4 Where vessels must maintain a hard copy logbook in bound volumes, the Administration will accept a hard copy printout in accordance with [MI-108](#), §7.41.2(g).
 - .5 Evidence that the routines for safekeeping MARPOL ERB or other electronic logbook systems under MI-108, §7.41.2(g) are implemented in the ship's International Safety Management system.

4.0 Questions

Contact eRecordBooks@register-iri.com with any questions about MARPOL ERBs, including any issues encountered in using the web portal.