

Maritime Activities Consultants – M.A.C.
“Connecting Your Business to the Maritime Resources You Need”
M.A.C. S.A. 1st Quarter 2021
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Subject: “M.A.C. S.A. 1st Quarter 2021 Newsletter”

Within the 1st quarter of 2021 M.A.C. S.A. closely followed up the crew change crisis caused by COVID-19 restrictions which continued to cause challenges, despite some improvement in the numbers, and informed our international clients, as appropriate. Travel restrictions imposed by governments around the world have created significant hurdles to crew changes and repatriation of seafarers, which has led to a growing humanitarian crisis as well as significant concerns for the safety of seafarers and shipping. Besides **M.A.C. S.A.'s dedicated team of experts** on international maritime regulatory developments continued to guide various international registries on concrete maritime regulatory developments and shipping policy initiatives.

1. The **Maritime Circulars Issued** covered among others the ILO/MLC regulatory developments, the IMO Fuel Oil Consumption data, and the national contact points on Safety & Pollution Prevention and Response circulated by IMO.

- 2018 Amendments to MLC, 2006 Entered Into Force;
- IMO DCS: Deadline Approaching for Annual Submission of Fuel Oil Consumption Data (31/03/2021);
- IMO Updated Circular on National Contact Points for Safety and Pollution Prevention and Response (MSC/MEPC Circular);

2. The M.A.C. S.A. **Website Uploads** informed our clients and various International Registries on our activity including industry maritime International Organizations publications and various developments on maritime trade sanctions and maritime security updates.

- International Ship Registry of Gabon: Setting Global Trends in Maritime Shipping;
- The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) has published the latest Flag State Performance Table (2020/2021);
- M.A.C. Technical Service Circular No. 02/2021: “US MARAD Maritime Security Update”;
- M.A.C. Technical Service Circular No. 03/2021: “U.S. Maritime Sanctions on Venezuela – Follow-up”;
- M.A.C. Technical Service Circular No. 04/2021: “IMO H.T.W. 7TH Session: COVID-19, “White List” and training in focus at Human Element, Training and Watchkeeping Sub-Committee – IMO launches a year of action for seafarers”;
- M.A.C. Technical Service Circular No. 05/2021: “British security intelligence firm, Dryad Global, has recently issued its 2020 annual report, which provides an overview of piracy trends worldwide”;
- International Ship Registry of Gabon: “IMO DCS: Deadline Approaching for Annual Submission of Fuel Oil Consumption Data (31/03/2021)”;

3. M.A.C. S.A. **LinkedIn Uploads** activity provided strong emphasis to our periodic publications of Technical Service Circulars, International Registers Circulars, and also various marketing activities and maritime events.

- The Gulf News Magazine in its 26.01.2021 edition extensively presents the Intershipping Services – Gabon Maritime Administration organization and the dynamic development of the International Ship Registry of Gabon;
- Maritime Security Update: US MARAD updates its Gulf of Guinea, the Red Sea/Gulf of Aden, and Persian Gulf Security Advisories;
- U.S. Maritime Sanctions on Venezuela - Follow-up;
- EMSA focuses on the impact of the pandemic on certain shipping activities by analyzing vessel traffic data and providing reliable figures to assist in the definition of the recovery policies and specific measures;

4. The five (5) M.A.C. S.A. regular **Technical Services Circulars Issued** covered a wide spectrum of technical issues like the ILO/MLC amendments, as well as shipping policy developments including maritime security and maritime sanctions updates.

5. The **M.A.C. S.A. dedicated seafarer's certification team** energetically focused on supporting ship owners, crew agents and managing companies to find the most suitable flag under which their seafarers will be properly certificated as far as **STCW Certificates of Competency (C.O.C.) and Seaman Books** concern. Moreover, we individually guided seafarers on their medical examinations according to STCW rules, as well as provided a certification plan for seafarers who have been serving onboard vessels, at the time, while holding recently expired certificates (renewal of Seaman Books and COCs, alternative certification solutions, issuance of Endorsements Certificates, instant assistance and consultation, etc.). The M.A.C. S.A. seafarer's certification team actively continued the collaboration with several flag Administrations, upholding our fundamental nature of providing STCW certification solutions for every individual need and ad-hoc situation.

6. M.A.C. S.A. joins the voice of the international shipping community and the IMO Sec. Gen. by emphatic underlining that now, more than ever, **seafarers need to be designated as key workers** to ensure priority vaccination and access to safe transit and travel.

**M.A.C. S.A. General-Manager,
Evangelos Oikonomou**