



RAN 04

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (TONNAGE) REGULATIONS 1998

Most regulations, notices and advice notes are available on The Isle of Man Government web site: www.iomshipregistry.com or by contacting marine.registry@gov.im

- 1.** The Merchant Shipping Registration Act 1991 requires every ship prior to registry to be surveyed and its tonnage ascertained in accordance with the Tonnage Regulations. A Certificate of Survey is issued giving the details of the ship's tonnage and build and other descriptive particulars required for registration.
- 2.** The Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) Regulations 1998, SD 513/98 came into operation on the 1st November 1998, and implement the International Convention on the Tonnage Measurement of Ships 1969.
- 3.** The 1969 Tonnage Convention was the outcome of an International Conference held in London in the summer of 1969 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). Its purpose is to achieve a new and unified system of measurement by which the tonnage of ships, of all nations, will be determined.
- 4.** Under the 1969 Convention every ship will continue to be assigned two tonnages (i.e. a Gross Tonnage and a Net Tonnage). Unlike the values derived from existing systems however:
 - 4.1** 'the gross' will be a realistic indication of the ship's size. It is based upon the moulded volume of the entire ship (hull plus erections and all enclosed spaces) and there are no deductions, exemptions or special allowances there from, and
 - 4.2** 'the net' will be a general indication of the ship's earning capacity. However as the value is derived from a formula based upon the moulded volume of the cargo spaces, the number of passengers carried, the moulded depth of the ship and the summer draught, it is less indicative than the gross tonnage. No special units are

employed in the new system consequently the values obtained are expressed simply as the 'gross tonnage' and the 'net tonnage' terms which should be considered as having the same meaning and value as 'ton, gross tonnage' and 'tons, net' (or 'register tonnage') had previously

5. Under the 1998 Tonnage Regulations, all ships of 24 metres in length and over are required to have their tonnage ascertained in the form of a tonnage certificate known as the "International Tonnage Certificate (1969)". For further information regarding the acceptance of International Tonnage Certificates, contact the Department.

6. All vessels of under 24 metres overall length are to be measured in accordance with the simplified measurement system previously applicable to pleasure yachts of under 13.7 metres overall length

7. Arrangements for the tonnage measurement of Fishing Vessels are contained in the Merchant Shipping (Tonnage) (Isle of Man) Regulations 1988 (G.C. 336/88)

8. The Department has authorised the following as certifying authorities and to undertake Tonnage Measurement in accordance with the 1998 Tonnage Regulations -

(a) *Any ship*

Lloyd's Register of Shipping
71 Fenchurch Street
London
(Tel: 0207 423 2789)

American Bureau of Shipping
ABS House
1 Frying Pan Alley
LONDON
E1 7HR (Tel: 020 7377 4486)

Bureau Veritas
Suite 1, Keel House
Tyne Dock, South Shields
Tyne & Wear
(Tel: 0191 427 8177)

Germanischer Lloyd
Vorsetzen 32/35
D-20459
Germany
(Tel: 0049 40361 49 3334)

Det Norske Veritas
14 Mitchell Point
Ensign Way
Southampton
(Tel: 002380 745 940)

RINA UK
4th Floor, Kingston House
29-31 Kingston Crescent
Portsmouth
(Telephone: 02392 666320)

Nippon Kaiji Kyokai
6th Floor, Finsbury Circus House
12-15 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7EB
(Telephone: 020 7621 0963)

(b) *Vessels under 24 metres may additionally be measured by -*

The Royal Yachting Association
Surveyors
RYA House, Ensign Way
Hamble
Southampton, SO31 4YA
(Tel: 0845 345 0400)

Yacht Brokers, Designers and
Association
The Glass Works, Penns Road
Petersfield
GU32 9EW
(Tel : 01730 710425)

MECAL International Marine
Pearl Assurance House
Duke Street, Tavistock
Devon, PL19 0BA
(Tel: 01822 615 500)