

Isle of Man Ship Registry Technical Advisory Notice

Record of Sea Service replacing Discharge books

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This Notice has been published to advise clients that from 01 April 2019 the Isle of Man (IoM) Ship Registry will publish a new document titled 'Seafarer's Record of Sea Service'.

This document can be downloaded free of charge from the Ship Registry's website, or can be purchased in a hard-back book by emailing seafarers@gov.im.

This new publication replaces the 'Seaman's Discharge Book' which has traditionally been used to record seafarer's sea service and is now withdrawn.

The new 'Seafarer's Record of Sea Service' has been specifically designed for recording a seafarer's employment on board a ship in accordance with MLC Regulation A2.1(e). This new book is in a user friendly format and once it has been received by the seafarer, he/she must complete their personal details on the inside cover. Each individual entry must be signed by the ship's master and there is an option to be stamped with the ship's or company's stamp.

The following are some common questions and answers:

1. Do seafarers on IoM registered ships have to use an IoM Seafarer's Record of Sea Service?

No, any document can be used as long as it contains the minimum information stated in Section 2 of MLN 2.1. This can include a Discharge Book/Record of Sea Service issued by another Administration.

2. Can a previously issued IoM Seaman's Discharge Book still be used?

Yes, they will remain valid for recording sea service.

3. Is the Record of Sea Service also a seafarer's ID document?

No, it is only a record of sea service and is not a Seafarer's Identity Document which provides a visa exemption under ILO Convention 108.

4. Is the previously issued Seaman's Discharge book also a seafarer's ID document?

No – same reason as in (3.) above.

5. Are there any restrictions on who can purchase a Record of Sea Service?

No – anyone can purchase a Record of Sea Service and they can be purchased individually or in bulk.

Please note - The Isle of Man Ship Registry cannot give legal advice. Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel. You should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.

