

**Circular 25 / 2011**

**To: Ship owners and managers of vessels 400GT and over; and vessels greater than 24 meters, but less than 400GT.**

**Subject: The International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships, 2001, comes into force on 1 July 2011.**

**Date: 28 June 2011**

All owners or managers of vessels **400GT and greater** engaged in international voyages are advised that they are required to be surveyed and certified, by a Maritime Cook Islands Appointed Surveyor or a Cook Islands Approved Recognised Organisations, in accordance with the Convention, to ensure their compliance.

Those vessels shall be subject to an initial survey before the ship is put into service, or before the AFS Certificate is required. Further surveys and endorsements are required when the AFS is changed or replaced.

Those vessels not yet certified should be surveyed and certified at the next scheduled annual survey.

All owners or managers of vessels **24 meters or greater but less than 400GT** engaged in international voyages, are required to carry a Declaration signed by the owner or owners authorised agent. Such Declaration shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation (such as a paint receipt or a contractor invoice) or contain appropriate endorsement.

Owners are advised to contact Maritime Cook Islands or their authorised agent for the relevant Declaration template.

For further information or clarification please contact the Registrar of Ships, Deputy Registrar or Fleet Manager at Maritime Cook Islands; alternatively you may contact Maritime Cook Islands Head Office at:

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