Subject: Endorsement on Shore Based Maintenance Certificate (SBMC)

Background:
Subject endorsements on SBMC are being carried out as per Rules 5 of the Fourth Schedule of M.S. (Distress and Safety Radio Communication) Rules, 1995. Existing practice requires owners/managers of Indian registered foreign going vessels to submit vessel’s shore based maintenance certificate along with required documents for endorsement on SBMC by the Directorate.

Observations:
It is observed that this practice of endorsing the SBMC by DG Shipping is not bringing in any value addition and also involves avoidable procedural delays. In proposed M.S. (DSRC) Rules, (which are in the process of being approved by the Govt of India) the provision of endorsement on SBMC by the Directorate, has been removed.

Decisions taken:
In the interim, vide powers granted under Sec 456 of the M.S. Act, the Director General of Shipping hereby, exempts all Indian ships from the requirement of SBMC ‘shall be submitted for a approval’, as stated in Rule No. 5 of the Fourth Schedule of M.S. (DSRC) Rules 1995, provided following measures are adopted:-

1. Vessel always has a valid SBMC on board, entered between the ship owner and the authorized & approved service station; and

2. provision must be made in company’s ISM manuals and supported by a ship board procedure, verifiable during SMC audit of the ship to this effect; and

3. while entering into SBM contract owner should see that the service provider is authorized by the manufacture of the equipments meeting the primary requirements and duplication of equipment on board, and having SRU approval from DGS; and
This M.S. Notice comes in force from immediate effect, provided necessary revisions in Appex & Ship board ISM manual & procedure manual are incorporated to this effect under ISM clause 3 (i.e. company’s responsibility and authority).

This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping.

(Capt. S.K. Shukla)
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