China MSA Administrative Rules for Ship Maintenance and Inspection Service

Notice to ship owners, managers, Masters, Approved Nautical Inspectors, Recognised Organisations and surveyors

1. Purpose

This Technical Alert is provided by The Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) to bring the information referenced in Section 2 and 3 below to the attention of interested parties.

2. Introduction

2.1. The Maritime Safety Administration of the People’s Republic of China (China MSA) has recently introduced the Administrative Rules for Ship Servicing and Testing Services of China MSA, which came into force from 01 August 2019 and the “Comprehensive Services Platform of China MSA” (MSA platform) for control of the Ship Servicing and Testing Services, from 09 August 2019.

2.2. The MSA advises that after the dates noted in 2.1, Classification Societies shall accept services and testing results only from approved Service Providers listed on the MSA platform when such service or testing is being performed in Chinese ports or territorial waters, including docking facilities.

2.3. Service Providers not listed on the MSA Platform are not permitted to carry out service and/or testing activities in Chinese ports and territorial waters from 09 September 2019.

2.4. After 09 September 2019 all service reports and certificates issued by a service provider in Chinese ports and/or territorial waters shall be generated only using MSA Platform report and certificate forms, in addition to any other reporting requirements by the ship’s Flag Administration or Classification Society.
3. Services Covered

3.1. The following services are listed in the above rules:

- **Lifesaving equipment servicing:**
  Inflatable life rafts, inflatable lifeboats, marine evacuation systems, inflatable life jackets, immersion suits and lifeboat/rescue boats, launching appliances, on-load release gear, etc.

- **Fire protection systems and equipment servicing and testing:**
  Fixed fire detection and fire alarm systems, fixed fire extinguishing systems, portable/wheeled fire extinguishers, fireman's outfits, emergency escape breathing devices, etc.

- **Navigation safety and radio equipment servicing and testing:**
  Radio appliances, Navtex receivers, emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRB), ship earth stations, search and rescue positioning devices, dual-way radio telephones, ship security alarm systems, ship automatic identification systems, voyage data recorders (VDR), etc.

- **Ship non-destructive-testing (NDT) and thickness measurements:**
  Radiographic testing, ultrasonic testing, magnetic particle testing, penetration testing, etc.

- **Ship noise testing.**

- Other types of servicing and testing required by rules, conventions, laws and regulations.

3.2. The BMA encourages owners and managers to consult with their Classification Societies and the Service Providers prior to arranging any services in Chinese ports and/or territorial waters.

4. Validity

4.1. This Technical Alert is valid until further notice.

5. Revision History

Version 1 (13 September 2019) – First issue