
BMA Technical and Safety Alerts

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

This Notice supersedes BMA Information Bulletin No.149 Rev.1

1. Purpose

- 1.1. This Information Notice (IN) describes the system of Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) "Technical Alerts" and "Safety Alerts".

2. Application

- 2.1. Applies to all Technical Alerts and Safety Alerts.

3. Introduction

- 3.1. The BMA introduced Technical Alerts in 2013. Technical Alerts are intended to:
- i. Bring important but short-term information from the BMA to the attention of Bahamian ship owners, managers, Masters and crews;
 - ii. Bring guidance and information issued by third parties to the attention of Bahamian ship owners, managers, Masters and crews;
 - iii. Increase awareness of a particular topic or area.
- 3.2. Safety Alerts were introduced in 2017. Safety Alerts are intended to:
- i. Bring safety guidance and information issued by the BMA and third parties to the attention of Bahamian ship owners, managers, Masters and crews;
 - ii. Provide details of incidents and lessons learnt;
 - iii. Increase awareness of a particular topic or area.

4. Technical Alerts

- 4.1. Notwithstanding paragraph 1.2.3.2 of the ISM Code, any recommendations made in third party information referenced in a BMA Technical Alert have no mandatory application for Bahamian ships. Where such recommendations are mandated by the BMA, they will be advised via a Marine Notice and/or the Bahamas National Requirements.

- 4.2. The use of BMA Technical Alerts is voluntary and the Company¹ should determine which, if any, of the Alerts it distributes to its ships and offices.
- 4.3. The BMA does not require relevant BMA Technical Alerts to be held by the Company or on board in the flag State file. The Company may, however, do so for ease of reference.
- 4.4. Third party information referenced in BMA Technical Alerts is provided in good faith and may not apply to all sectors of the industry. Any queries or comments on third party information should be directed to the party providing the information.
- 4.5. At the beginning of each calendar year, Technical Alerts that have been published during the previous year will either be:
 - i. Withdrawn; or
 - ii. Replaced with a new Technical Alert; or
 - iii. If the information in the Notice is still relevant, incorporated into Marine Notices, Information Notices or the Bahamas National Requirements, as applicable.

5. Safety Alerts

- 5.1. Notwithstanding paragraph 1.2.3.2 of the ISM Code, any recommendations made in third party information referenced in a BMA Safety Alert have no mandatory application for Bahamian ships. Where such recommendations are mandated by the BMA they will be advised via a Marine Notice and/or the Bahamas National Requirements.
- 5.2. The use of BMA Safety Alerts is voluntary and the Company should determine which, if any, of the Alerts it distributes to its ships and offices.
- 5.3. The BMA does not require relevant BMA Safety Alerts to be held by the Company or on board in the flag State file. The Company may, however, do so for ease of reference.
- 5.4. Third party information referenced in BMA Safety Alerts is provided in good faith and may not apply to all sectors of the industry. Any queries or comments on third party information should be directed to the party providing the information.

¹ The Company is the entity responsible for the management of the ship in accordance with the ISM Code. For ships to which the ISM Code does not apply, the Company is the Managing Owner in accordance with Section 52 of the Merchant Shipping Act.

