

Merchant Marine Circular

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-397

To: Shipowners/operators, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates, Recognized Organizations (ROs), and Port State Control Administrations.

Subject: Use of AIS onboard fishing vessels

Reference: Resolution No. 106-086-DGMM dated December 14th, 2022.

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1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Circular is to notify all Shipowners/Operators, Recognized Organizations (ROs) and Masters, of the mandatory use of AIS (Automatic Identification System) onboard fishing vessels with an International registry certificate, wherever they are, including Panamanian jurisdictional waters.
 2. All Recognized Organizations (ROs) should ensure that this Resolution No. 106-086-DGMM is fully complied by all fishing vessels with international register certificate, at the surveys in order to issue the Fishing vessel Safety Certificate. Surveys checklist and the Certificate supplements shall be up to date with this new requirement.
 3. The fishing vessels of international registry certificate that do not have AIS equipment, will have until June 30th, 2023, in order to comply with this requirement.

January, 2023

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Circular or any other request should be forward to:

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