

8 June 2015

New performance lists Paris MoU

At its 48th meeting last month, the Paris MoU Committee approved the 2014 inspection results and adopted new performance lists for flags and Recognized Organizations. These lists will take effect from 1 July 2015.

The “White, Grey and Black (WGB) List” presents the full spectrum, from quality flags to flags with a poor performance that are considered high or very high risk. It is based on the total number of inspections and detentions over a 3-year rolling period for flags with at least 30 inspections in the period.

On the “White, Grey and Black list” for 2014, a total number of 72 flags are listed: 43 on the “White List”, 19 on the “Grey List” and 10 on the “Black list”. In 2013 the number of flags listed totalled 75 flags, namely 46 on the “White List”, 19 on the “Grey List” and 10 on the “Black List”.

The “White List” represents quality flags with a consistently low detention record. Compared with 2013, the number of flags on the “White List” has decreased by 3 flags to a total number of 43 flags. New on the “White List” is India, which was on the “Grey List” last year.

France has been placed highest on the list in terms of performance for the third year in a row. The next in line of the best performing flags in 2014 are Hong Kong, Bahamas, Norway and Sweden.

Flags with an average performance are shown on the “Grey List”. Their appearance on this list may act as an incentive to improve and move to the “White List”. At the same time flags at the lower end of the “Grey List” should be careful not to neglect control over their ships and risk ending up on the “Black List” next year.

On this year’s “Grey List” a total number of 19 flags is recorded. Last year the “Grey List” also recorded 19 flags. New on the “Grey List” are Spain, Lithuania, Poland and Thailand, which last year were on the “White List”.

Belize has fallen from the “Grey List” to the “Black List”. The poorest performing flags are the United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Moldova, Togo, Cook Islands and Dominica.

For several years the Committee has closely monitored the performance of classification societies acting as ROs or flags. To calculate the performance of the Recognized Organizations, the same formula to calculate the excess factor of the flags is used. A minimum number of 60 inspections per RO are needed before the performance is taken into account for the list. In 2014 37 ROs are recorded on the performance list.

Among the best performing Recognized Organizations were:

- DNV GL AS (DNVGL)
- Det Norske Veritas (DNV)
- Lloyd's Register (LR)
- American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)
- China Classification Society (CCS)

The lowest performing Recognized Organizations were:

- INCLAMAR
- International Register of Shipping (IS)
- Bulgarian Register of Shipping (BRS)

Compared with last year's performance level, a small shift in RO performance in 2014 can be noticed. This year fewer organisations have been placed in the very low and low performing parts of the list and more organisations have been placed in the medium part of the list.

On 1 July 2015 the performance lists will be used for calculating the ship risk profile and flags on the "Grey List" and "Black List" are subject to the more stringent banning measures in force since 1 January 2011. More information can be found in the 2014 Annual Report, which will be released in July 2015.

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Notes to editors:

Regional Port State Control was initiated in 1982 when fourteen European countries agreed to coordinate their port State inspection effort under a voluntary agreement known as the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MOU). Currently 27 countries are member of the Paris MOU. The European Commission, although not a signatory to the Paris MOU, is also a member of the Committee.

The Paris MoU is supported by a central database THETIS hosted and operated by the European Maritime Safety Agency in Lisbon. Inspection results are available for search and daily updating by MoU Members. Inspection results can be consulted on the Paris MoU public website and are published on the Equasis public website.

The Secretariat of the MoU is provided by the Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment and located in The Hague.

Port State Control is a check on visiting foreign ships to verify their compliance with international rules on safety, pollution prevention and seafarers living and working conditions. It is a means of enforcing compliance in cases where the owner and flag State have failed in their responsibility to implement or ensure compliance. The port State can require defects to be put right, and detain the ship for this purpose if necessary. It is therefore also a port State's defence against visiting substandard shipping.