

GIBRALTAR DEPARTMENT OF SHIPPING
(Department of Trade, Employment and Communications)



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Shipping Information Notice – 005

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Managers, and Agents

Port State Control

One of the main aims of the Gibraltar Department of Shipping is to achieve Paris MOU 'white list' status by 2006. Achieving 'white list' status will benefit all, as Gibraltar registered ships will be targeted less by Port State Control Inspectors.

Until recently, our Port State Control record, in relation to deficiencies and detentions, has been good. However we still receive Port State Control Inspection reports, which give us cause for concern.

The Gibraltar Department of Shipping has found, that in most cases, deficiencies and detentions recorded against its registered vessels are easily avoidable by more preparation and better management on board ship before inspections take place.

The only certain way to avoid unnecessary deficiencies and detentions is to ensure that ships are in a fully operational condition and comply with all Conventions.

It is appreciated that Port State Control inspections differ in standards from port to port and in which country the inspection is being carried out. Acknowledging this, always expect the worst, taking care not to treat Port State Control Inspectors with contempt.

As a pro-active measure, and to avoid unnecessary deficiencies and detentions in future, the Gibraltar Department of Shipping has introduced a 6-monthly inspection regime for those vessels with a persistently poor Port State Control record. If necessary, this will be followed up by a request for the identified vessel to leave the register.

It is also the intention of this department that the good record held by the vast majority, should not be compromised by a small minority.

All notices of all categories will be posted on the Department of Shipping's website which can currently be accessed through www.gibmaritime.com. As part of plans for an upgraded website the Department of Shipping will be introducing a restricted area (accessed through a password) for its clients.

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