



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY TO THE PRESIDENT

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All Registered Owners, Registered bareboat charterers,
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus flag

All Recognised Organisations (ROs)

Subject: Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems

I refer to the above matter and wish to bring to your attention the IMO Resolution MSC.428(98) which recognizes the urgent need to raise awareness on cyber risk threats and vulnerabilities to support safe and secure shipping, which is operationally resilient to cyber risks.

Having considered the above, the Facilitation Committee, approved guidelines on maritime cyber risk management (MSC-FAL.1/Circ.3).

Maritime cyber risk refers to a measure of the extent to which a technology asset could be threatened by a potential circumstance or event, which may result in shipping-related operational, safety or security failures as a consequence of information or systems being corrupted, lost or compromised.

Cyber risk management means the process of identifying, analysing, assessing and communicating a cyber-related risk and accepting, avoiding, transferring or mitigating it to an acceptable level, considering costs and benefits of actions taken to stakeholders.

Noting the objectives of the ISM Code which include, inter alia, the provision of safe practices in ship operation and a safe working environment, the assessment of all identified risks to ships, personnel and the environment, the establishment of appropriate safeguards, and the continuous improvement of safety management skills of personnel ashore and aboard ships, **all Management Companies of ships flying the Cyprus flag should address the cyber risks in their safety management system no later than the first annual verification of the company's Document of Compliance after 1 January 2021.**

ROs are expected to verify compliance with the above mentioned requirement during the first annual verification of the company's Document of Compliance after 1 January 2021.

Costas Iacovou

Permanent Secretary

Shipping Deputy Ministry to the President

- Cc** - Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Bar Association

