

**[MIA MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 203, S. 2005,
January 19, 2005]**

**RULES GOVERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SHIP SAFETY
INSPECTION SYSTEM (SSIS)**

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 474 and Republic Act No. 9295, and in order to provide specific guidelines and procedures for ship safety inspection of Philippine-registered ships, the following rules are hereby prescribed in the implementation of the SSIS which was adopted in the Rule VI Sec. 4 of the Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) of R.A. No. 9295;

I. Objective

To effectively implement the Ship Safety Inspection System (SSIS) as adopted in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 9295, in conjunction with the SSIS Manual which has been formulated and adopted by the Authority.

II. Coverage

All Philippine-registered ships regardless of hull construction operating in the Philippine waters, including but not limited to fishing vessels

III. Definition of Terms

For purposes of this Circular, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Administration - refers to the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA)
2. Cargo Ship - refers to any ship which is not a passenger ship.
3. Fishing Vessel - refers to a vessel used for catching fish and other living resources of the sea.
4. High Speed Craft - refers to a craft capable of maximum speed in meters per second (m/s) equal to or exceeding:

0.1667

3.70 $\sqrt[3]{\Delta}$ where: Δ - displacement corresponding to the design waterline (m³)

5. Implementing Rules and Regulation - refers to the implementing rules and regulation pursuant to the provisions under R.A. 9295.

6. Passengers Ship - refers to any ship authorized by the Administration to carry passenger(s).

7. Ship Safety Inspection System - refers to the set of guidelines, procedures, requirements and standards to govern ship safety inspection for Philippine-registered ships.

IV. General Policy Guidelines

1. All Philippine-registered ships regardless of hull construction operating in the Philippine waters, including but not limited to fishing vessels, shall be required to secure the applicable ship safety-related certificates as provided in the SSIS and in the herein Circular prior to operation, as follows:

- a. Passenger Ship Safety Certificate (PSSC)
- b. Cargo Ship Safety Certificate (CSSC)
- c. Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate (CSSCC)
- d. Cargo Ship Equipment Certificate (CSSEC)
- e. High-Speed Craft Safety Certificate (HSCSC)
- f. Exemption Certificate (EC)
- g. Minimum Safe Manning Certificate (MSMC)
- h. Fishing Vessel Safety Certificate (FVSC)
- i. Certificate of Fitness (CF)
- j. Other safety-related certificates as may be required by the Administration

2. The foregoing certificates shall be issued only upon compliance with the requirements prescribed under the SSIS Manual.

V. Specific Provisions

1. The PSSC shall be issued only to a passenger ship for a period specified by the Administration, which shall not exceed twelve (12) months. The Administration may extend the validity of the certificate to a maximum of three (3) months where warranted.

2. The CSSC shall be issued only to a cargo ship for a period specified by the Administration, which shall not exceed five (5) years and shall be endorsed annually, subject to a favorable result of the corresponding annual inspection to be conducted. The endorsement period of said certificate may be extended by the Administration to a maximum of three (3) months where warranted.

3. The CSSCC, CSSEC and CE shall be issued only to cargo ships carrying oil and/or other dangerous products for a period specified by the Administration, which shall not exceed five (5) years and shall be endorsed annually.

4. The HSCSC shall be issued only to a passenger or cargo high-speed craft for a period specified by the Administration, which shall not exceed twelve (12) months. The Administration may extend the validity of the certificate to a maximum of three (3) months where warranted.

5. The FVSC shall be issued only to a fishing vessel for a period specified by the Administration, which shall not exceed five (5) years and shall be endorsed