

[MARINA CIRCULAR NO. 2006-001, December 28, 2005]

RULES ON ACCREDITATION OF MANUFACTURERS/SUPPLIERS/SERVICING ENTITIES OF LIFE-SAVING AND OTHER SAFETY-RELATED APPLIANCES/EQUIPMENT

Pursuant to the relevant provisions of P.D. 474, Sec. 12(e) of E.O. No. 125 as amended, Chap. III, Sec. 9 of R.A. No. 9295, and Reg. 1/8 of the PMMRR 97 as amended, the following rules are hereby adopted.

I. Objective

To insure that appliances and equipment for life-saving, fire-fighting, communications and navigation used on-board Philippine-registered domestic ships meet the standards and specifications to foster safety of life at sea and marine environment protection, through the accreditation of their manufacturers, suppliers and servicing entities.

II. Coverage

All companies/entities duly organized under existing Philippine laws to engage in the business of manufacturing. Supplying and/or servicing appliances and equipment for life-saving, fire-fighting, communications, navigation, etc. including related supplies/materials for such, used on board Philippine-registered domestic ships; as well as owners/operators/charterers of such ships using the required appliances and equipment on board their ships.

III. General Provisions

1. Upon the effectivity of this Circular, all companies/entities manufacturing, supplying and/or servicing life-saving and other safety related appliances and equipment used, or for use, on-board Philippine-registered domestic ships shall apply for accreditation with the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Maritime Safety Office. Only those accredited by the MARINA shall be authorized to engage in and transact business as manufacturers, suppliers and/or servicing entities of life-saving, fire-fighting, communications and/or navigation appliances and equipment for Philippine-registered domestic ships.
2. Accredited manufacturers of safety-related appliances and equipment shall have their products type-approved by a recognized classification society, their equivalents, or other competent bodies recognized by the MARINA (i.e., SOPI, DOST, DTI, Bureau of Product Standards, NTC) before being offered in the market. Where deemed more practicable, the MARINA may also grant approval/type-approval in so far as alternative or equivalent safety-related appliances/equipment are concerned, as provided in MARINA M.C. No. 197. Approval shall be preceded by a design approval for each appliance/equipment to be manufactured, followed by prototype production, then testing which should be in the presence of authorized surveyor. The prototype shall be tested following the universally accepted procedure such as those following the ISO system or its equivalents, or those recommended by the LSA Code. Each appliance/equipment type-approved/approved for manufacture shall bear a mark of such approval, and other required details (i.e. standard/ quality type, expiry date if applicable, etc.), in the product itself.
3. Suppliers of imported safety-related appliances, equipment, supplies and materials shall offer in the market only those which were manufactured with type approval by class societies or their equivalents, as duly documented and/or certified. Clearance shall first be secured from the MARINA before offering such imported safety-related appliances and equipment in the market, after verification of their type-approval/documentation, or testing where warranted.
4. Servicing entities of safety-related appliances and equipment shall adhere to class-approved procedures, or ISO compliant system or its equivalent, supported by duly-trained and competent service technicians/engineers, as well as required resources and equipment, and should be so authorized by the original manufacturers of said appliances and equipment.
5. Domestic shipowners/operators/charterers of Philippine-registered ships shall insure that safety-related appliances and equipment to be used on board their ships are manufactured, supplied and serviced by MARINA-accredited companies/entities.
6. The MARINA reserves the right to conduct spot inspection/audits to the office facilities and operations of accredited companies/entities, as well as conduct random testing of manufactured products.

IV. Requirements in Applying for Accreditation

1. Letter application for MARINA accreditation, with request for verification/inspection of office/laboratory facilities, equipment and personnel.
2. SEC Registration Certificate and Articles of Incorporation/BOI Accreditation/BDT-DTI Registration and Mayor's Permit.
3. List of officers and key personnel with corresponding Bio-data and credentials.
4. List of facilities and equipment owned/operated by applicant company/entity.
5. For applicants to be accredited as manufacturers, original copy of ISO certification or its equivalent, or proof of having applied for certification and that such is under process (only for the initial application).
6. For applicant to be accredited as suppliers, list and details of the appliances and equipment to be marketed, with the corresponding documentation on the type-approval/ approval for each, and proof of sole distributorship for imported items, when applicable.
7. For applicants to be accredited as servicing entities, list of appliances and equipment to be serviced, their corresponding authorizations from manufacturers to service each appliance/equipment, copies of the corresponding procedures/systems governing the servicing of each with the corresponding class approval or ISO certification, and list of employed service technicians/engineers with corresponding proof of training and credentials.