



South African Maritime Safety Authority

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Date: 25 October 2016

Marine Notice No. 36 of 2016

Annual Safety Surveys for Small Vessels Operating Outside of South African Waters

TO ALL PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, REGIONAL MANAGERS, SURVEYORS, VESSEL OWNERS, MANAGER'S, SHIP'S AGENTS AND CHARTERERS

Background and Summary

This Marine Notice serves as a guideline to vessel owners who have small vessels which are operating outside of South African waters. All small vessels are required to have an annual safety survey. SAMS has noticed an increase in the number of instances where small vessels are operating outside of South African waters when these surveys become due and therefore as a result, many of these vessels are not being surveyed for their mandatory annual safety survey. This Marine Notice will therefore provide vessel owners with the options that they have in these cases to ensure that their vessel remains properly certified in terms of safety and construction requirements. All vessels require valid hull and safety certificates at all times when operating. In this regard, vessel owners are advised to familiarize themselves with the provisions of Marine Notice 9 of 2016.

Option 1: SAMS Surveyor

If the vessel is at a foreign port and will not be returning to a South African Port in time for the vessel's annual safety survey to be conducted, then a written request must be made to the SAMS Principal Officer at the vessel's Home Port, for a SAMS surveyor to be flown to the place where the vessel is operating alternatively at a mutually agreed location, in order for the survey(s) to be undertaken. All transport and subsistence costs together with the surveying costs shall be for the account of the vessel owner. Vessel owners are advised to make timeous requests for such services as the availability of surveyors will depend on current workload of the surveyors within the Republic.

Option 2: SAS Surveyor

If the vessel is registered with South African Sailing, one of SAMS's appointed agencies, the survey(s) can be conducted by one of the authorized SAS surveyors. As with the process above, written application for such services can be made directly to the respective SA Sailing Office to request that a surveyor undertake the task of conducting the survey(s) at a place where the vessel is operating and/or located at the time of survey(s). For further information relating to the costs for SAS's services, the vessel owner should contact SAS directly. All certificates will be issued by SAMS once all requisite survey paperwork is received from the respective SAS surveyor.

Option 3: Maritime Authority / Independent Surveyor

If the vessel is operating in a country where the maritime authority or an independent organization of such country is willing to do the safety equipment and hull (dry dock) survey(s) on SAMS's behalf, SAMS will require a written request from the vessel owner to be provided to the SAMS Principal Officer at the

vessel's home port, detailing the relevant authority which will undertake the necessary survey(s). In addition to this, SAMSA will require that the Curriculum Vitae detailing the respective surveyor's past experience with surveying small vessels is provided. The discretion to accept the surveyor to undertake the necessary survey(s) lies solely with the SAMSA Principal Officer at the vessel's Home Port. If permission is given by the Principal Officer for the survey(s) to be conducted, then upon completion of such survey(s), the completed SAMSA checklist duly signed by the owner and the surveyor, together with the accompanying survey report and photographs must be sent to the respective SAMSA Principal Officer at the vessel's home port for approval. Once such approval has been given, a request will be issued by the Principal Officer to the relevant authority to issue the necessary certificates on SAMSA's behalf and it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that a copy of such is provided to SAMSA for record keeping purposes. In the case of independent surveyors who do not as a matter of course issue safety certificates, these certificates will then be issued by SAMSA in the same manner as per option 2 above upon receipt of the completed checklist, survey report and photographs.

For any queries relating to the above kindly contact the SAMSA Principal Officer at the vessel's home port.

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