

INTERNATIONAL SHIP
REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Contents

Section:	Page No.
Introduction	2
Effect of Registration	3
Bahamas	4
Barbados	5
Bermuda	6
Cambodia	7
Cayman Islands	8
Cyprus	9
Denmark	10
Greece	11
Honduras	12
Hong Kong	13
Isle of Man	14
Jamaica	15
Liberia	16
Luxembourg	17
Madeira	18
Malta	19
Marshall Islands	20
Netherlands	21
Netherlands Antilles	22
Norway	23
Panama	24
Singapore	25
St. Vincent and The Grenadines	26
United Kingdom	27
Vanuatu	28
Glossary of Conventions	29
Classification Societies	30

Introduction

Purpose of this guide

Selecting a flag is a complex process and with an ever increasing number of flags available the choice is becoming more and more difficult for owners to make. This booklet is intended to provide a brief "at a glance" guide to the registration requirements of some of the main registries so that the relative merits of these flags can be compared. It is not an exhaustive guide and other factors not referred to in this guide may be relevant in any particular case. However, the guide should give an indication of the eligibility of a ship for registration under a particular flag and the likely cost of registration. The guide also sets out the principal documents required for the purposes of registration in each case, the form of mortgage that can be registered against a ship and the costs of registering such a mortgage. The registries referred to are those that, in our opinion, are currently the most important and popular registries, along with others such as Greece, Hong Kong, the Isle of Man and the United Kingdom which will primarily be of local interest.

Reasons for registration

The choice of registry is dictated by many factors. In addition to the questions of cost and eligibility, political considerations, tax, confidentiality, manning and safety requirements may also be important. From a bank's or financier's point of view, the system for registering and protecting mortgages and the law relating to maritime liens and the validity and priority of mortgages must also provide satisfactory protection. The majority of ships are now registered in countries where the general legislation is specifically designed to accommodate shipowners and their financiers. Some of these countries may be regarded as flags of convenience.

The main characteristic of a flag of convenience is that the majority of ships registered are owned or controlled in a country different from the country of the flag and a list of flags of convenience is maintained by the International Transport Workers' Federation (the "ITF"). The ITF currently reserves the right to blacklist or take action against ships registered under flags of convenience where it considers them unsafe or where provisions for the crew are considered inadequate. However, because of improving standards, action by the ITF against such ships is becoming more uncommon, although at present the status of some of the registries referred to in this guide is subject to review.

Effect of Registration

For the purposes of all relevant legal, administrative and social matters a ship will be subject to the laws and regulations of the state under whose flag it is registered as well as provisions regarding title to the ship and any transfer of ownership. The state is also likely to have regulations which provide for the safety of ships flying its flag and the health and welfare of the crew on those ships. The law of the state should also apply in the territorial waters of other states through which all ships will normally be entitled to have the right of innocent passage (unless the ship is not registered under any flag, in which case it will not have the freedom of the seas). Where a ship enters the port of another state, however, conflicts may arise and it may be subject to the law (port state control) of that state regardless of its actual flag. This will occur, inter alia, under the CLC or, in the United States, under the Oil Pollution Act 1990.

Bahamas

No. of Ships	1,476						
Tonnage	32,500,000 grt						
Age Limit	12 years*						
Size Restrictions	1,600 grt						
Ownership Requirements	There is no requirement for local ownership of a Bahamian registered ship. The ship is required to be surveyed on first registration and inspected annually thereafter.						
Documents Required	<p>The owner must submit a written application for registration to the Bahamas Maritime Authority along with (inter alia) the following documents: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ evidence of ownership (e.g. bill of sale or builder's certificate); ◆ declaration of ownership; ◆ certified copy of the certificate of incorporation; ◆ evidence of the cancellation of previous registry; ◆ evidence that no liens recorded against the ship or the applicant; ◆ certificate of tonnage measurement; ◆ particulars of radio and radio accounting authority details; ◆ name of managing owner or manager if vessel is owned by a company; ◆ carving and marking note duly completed; ◆ survey certificate; ◆ details of number of crew the vessel is certified to carry; ◆ application for signal letters and confirmation that r/t set is installed on the vessel; ◆ application for safe manning certificates; ◆ application for MMSI number; ◆ SOLAS Certificates; ◆ Load line certificate. 						
Registration Fees	<p>Registration Fees*: Ships of 2000 nrt or less: US\$ 2,000 2,001-5,000 nrt: \$1 per nrt; 5,001 - 25,000 nrt: \$0.90 per nrt; over 25,000 nrt: \$22,500</p> <p>Annual Fees: Ships of 2,000 nrt or less: US\$ 1,900 2,001-5,000 nrt: \$0.13 per nrt plus \$1,650; 5,001 nrt and over: \$0.12 per nrt plus \$1,650.</p>						
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, LRS, BV, NKK, DNV, RINA, GL and KR.						
Crew Nationality	Foreign officers and ratings may man foreign owned Bahamian ships provided they have certificates acceptable to the Bahamian authorities.						
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the Bahamian Registry is permitted.						
Flag of Convenience	No.						
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	All the principal IMO Conventions have been adopted.						
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form issued by the Bahamian authorities is required and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Shipping Registry. However, care should be taken to ascertain whether or not these documents need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate. The mortgage and Deed of Covenants will also need to be notarised and executed in the presence of an independent witness who must attest to due execution. Legalisation not required.						
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$200 or £140						
Useful Addresses	<p>Bahamas Maritime Authority:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Latham House 16 Minories London EC3N 1EH</td> <td>Gold Circle Building Third Floor, East Bay Street P O Box N4679 USA Nassau, BAHAMAS</td> <td>Bahamas House 231 East 46th St NY, NY 10017</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tel: 020 7264 2550 Fax: 020 7264 2589 Telex: 892617 BAHREG G</td> <td>Tel: +1 242 394 3024 Fax: +1 242 394 3014 Telex: 20263 BAHAMARINE</td> <td>Tel: +1 212 829 0221 Fax: +1 212 829 0356</td> </tr> </table> <p>Website: www.bahamasmaritime.com</p>	Latham House 16 Minories London EC3N 1EH	Gold Circle Building Third Floor, East Bay Street P O Box N4679 USA Nassau, BAHAMAS	Bahamas House 231 East 46 th St NY, NY 10017	Tel: 020 7264 2550 Fax: 020 7264 2589 Telex: 892617 BAHREG G	Tel: +1 242 394 3024 Fax: +1 242 394 3014 Telex: 20263 BAHAMARINE	Tel: +1 212 829 0221 Fax: +1 212 829 0356
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* A pre-entry safety inspection must be passed. If the ship is over 20 years there is a presumption against acceptance (which may be rebutted).

* Discounts available for ships less than 5 years old or if three or more ships register at the same time.

Barbados

No. of Ships	87															
Tonnage	754,959 grt															
Age Limit	20 years subject to waiver by Principal Registrar.															
Size Restrictions	No restriction.															
Ownership Requirements	No requirement for local ownership.															
Documents Required	<p>Written application for registration with: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ notice of vessel name; ◆ appointment of authorised officer; ◆ evidence of title; ◆ declaration of ownership; ◆ company incorporation certificate; ◆ managing owner, manager or ship's husband; ◆ evidence of cancellation of previous registry; ◆ evidence of P&I cover; ◆ tonnage measurement certificate; ◆ evidence of seaworthiness; ◆ descriptive particulars survey certificate; ◆ radio accounting authority; ◆ minimum safe manning application; ◆ copy of current SOLAS, load line and MARPOL certificates. 															
Registration Fees	<p>Initial fee: -</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Under 2,000 nrt</td> <td style="width: 40%;">- US\$2,400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,001 nrt- 5,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$1.20 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5,001 nrt - 25,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$1.10 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25,001 nrt and over</td> <td>- Flat fee of US\$27,500.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Annual fee: -</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Up to 2,000 nrt</td> <td style="width: 40%;">- US\$1,740</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,001 - 5,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.12 per nrt plus US\$ 1,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5,001 nrt upwards</td> <td>- US\$0.11 per nrt plus US\$ 1,500 (irrespective of size)</td> </tr> </table>		Under 2,000 nrt	- US\$2,400	2,001 nrt- 5,000 nrt	- US\$1.20 X nrt	5,001 nrt - 25,000 nrt	- US\$1.10 X nrt	25,001 nrt and over	- Flat fee of US\$27,500.00	Up to 2,000 nrt	- US\$1,740	2,001 - 5,000 nrt	- US\$0.12 per nrt plus US\$ 1,500	5,001 nrt upwards	- US\$0.11 per nrt plus US\$ 1,500 (irrespective of size)
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Approved Classification Societies	LRS, BV, DNV, RINA, ABS, GL, NKK, KRS, RRS, CCS.															
Crew Nationality	No restrictions provided officers hold a valid foreign certificate acceptable to the Principal Registrar and that a licence has been issued on payment of a prescribed fee. English translations of certificate and in-date STCW endorsement required.															
Parallel Registration	Possible to bareboat charter in or out.															
Flag of Convenience	Yes.															
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, CLC, MARPOL, FUND, STCW, COLREG.															
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form issued by the Barbadian authorities is required and will need to be registered at the Ships' Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Ships' Registry. However, care should be taken to ascertain whether or not these documents need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate. The mortgage and Deed of Covenants will also need to be notarised and executed in the presence of an independent witness who must attest to due execution. Legalisation not required.															
Mortgage Registration Fee	Flat nominal fee.															
Useful Addresses	<p>Barbados Ships' Registry Barbados High Commission 1 Great Russell Street London WC1B 3JY Tel: 020 7636 5739 Fax: 020 7636 5745</p>	<p>Peter Parker Deputy Principal Registrar Barbados Ships' Registry International Trading Centre Warrens St Michael BARBADOS Tel: +1 246 425 3900 Fax: +1 246 425 2888</p>														

Bermuda

No. of Ships	121
Tonnage	5,500,000 grt
Age Limit	Restrictions [*]
Size Restrictions	No restriction [†]
Ownership Requirements	A qualified person, i.e. a British or Bermudan citizen or citizen of the Republic of Ireland or body corporate incorporated in Bermuda, the UK or any other relevant overseas territory must own a majority of the shares. When the qualified person is not an individual or body corporate resident in Bermuda, the appointment of a representative person is required.
Documents Required	The application to register should be made on the prescribed form (C190) and should be accompanied by the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application for name approval (DTP30040); ◆ evidence of ownership (builders certificate or bills of sale); ◆ the appointment of an authorised officer (C193); ◆ declaration of ownership (C194) and a certificate of survey (see below). Companies must also send a certified copy of their certificate of incorporation and memorandum and articles of association. (N.B. where the transfer is from a British Registry, the requirements are more straightforward).
Registration Fees	<p>Initial Fee:- For a ship not exceeding 10,000 nrt, a registration fee of US\$3,000. For a ship between 10,000 and 50,000 nrt, a fee of US\$3,000 plus a fee of US\$0.30 for each ton in excess of 10,000 nrt. For a ship exceeding 50,000 nrt a registration fee of US\$15,000 applies. For the transfer of a second ship in the same ownership or management within a 12 month period the above fees are reduced, and thereafter the third and subsequent ships are charged US\$1,000 as registration fee.</p> <p>Annual Fee:- For a ship not exceeding 10,000 nrt, a fee of US\$3,000. For a ship over 10,000 nrt and up to 50,000 nrt a fee of US\$3,000 with an additional fee of US\$0.22 for each ton exceeding 10,000 nrt. For ships exceeding 50,000 nrt, a fee of US\$11,800 plus an additional fee of US\$0.17 for each ton in excess of 50,000 nrt, with a max. of US\$30,000.</p> <p>Different fee scales apply to demise chartered ships, passenger ships and yachts.</p>
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS, RINA (by special arrangement) [*]
Crew Nationality	On strategic ships (passenger ships, Ro-Ro ships and product carriers) the Master, Chief Officer and Chief Engineer should be suitably qualified nationals of EC or NATO countries. Other officers may be of any nationality but must be able to speak and write English. On non-strategic ships Bermuda will accept senior officers without restrictions as to nationality.
Parallel Registration	Bareboat registration with compatible foreign registries is permitted, subject to the consent of the Bermudan authorities.
Flag of Convenience	Yes.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW, COLREG, CLC, FUND, INMARSAT.
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage is accepted and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. Mortgages are protected by the British legal system. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Shipping Registry. However, care should be taken to ascertain whether or not these documents also need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate.
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$300
Useful Addresses	<p>Registry Of Shipping PO Box H.M. 1628 Hamilton BERMUDA HMGX Tel : +1 441 295 7251/7306 Fax : +1 441 295 3718/296 5713 E-mail: maradros@gov.bm Website: www.bermudashipping.com</p>

^{*} Restrictions on age apply - contact the Registry for further details.

[†] Does not accept any fishing vessels.

^{*} These societies may issue tonnage measurement certificates incidental to registration in Bermuda but will not normally carry out the change of flag inspection. The change of flag inspection will be carried out by Bermudan surveyors or surveyors from the UK Department of Transport, although a survey by one of the approved classification societies may be accepted in certain circumstances.

Cambodia

No. of Ships	Around 2,000
Tonnage	Around 5,800,000 grt
Age Limit	None.
Size Restrictions	None.
Ownership Requirements	The Registry is an international open registry with no restriction on nationality (at the time of registration).
Documents Required	<p>For provisional registration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application to register a ship; ◆ declaration of ownership; ◆ builder's certificate or bill of sale; ◆ interim tonnage certificate; ◆ evidence that the ship is in a seaworthy condition (evidenced by classification or existing trading certificates); ◆ pay the licence fees. <p>For permanent registration (within 6 months, subject to possible extension):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ original copy of the application to register a ship; ◆ original copy of the declaration of ownership; ◆ original builder's certificate or bill of sale or a notarised copy; ◆ original deletion certificate from the previous registry (if applicable); ◆ a copy of the full term tonnage certificates; and ◆ the certified C & M note.
Registration Fees	<p>Ordinary registration tax for all vessels except vessels under 300 net tons is US\$0.05 per ton (flat rate of US\$15 for vessels under 300 net tons). Annual Tonnage Tax for all vessels (except vessels under 300 net tons, which pay US\$30) of US\$0.10. Provisional Certificate of Registry costs US\$200, Permanent Certificate of Registry costs US\$300. Other fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual Radio Tax: US\$50 ◆ Temporary Radio Station Licence: US\$100 ◆ Permanent Radio Station Licence: US\$200 ◆ Temporary Min. Safe Manning Certificate: US\$50 ◆ Minimum Safe Manning Certificate: US\$150 <p>Similar tariffs apply for re-registration and bareboat charter registration.</p>
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, CCS, GL, HRS, KRS, LRS, MRS, NKK, DNV, PRS, RINA.
Crew Nationality	No restrictions.
Parallel Registration	Yes – bareboat charter in and out.
Flag of Convenience	No.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	STCW (1978), International Regulations for Preventing Collisions on Load Lines, 1966, International Load Line Convention, 1974 Protocol of 1988, SOLAS, International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 (including 1978 Protocol), Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage 1969 (including 1976 Protocol).
Type of Mortgage	A mortgage may be recorded on the register. If there is more than one subsisting mortgage registered in respect of the same ship or share, the mortgagees shall, notwithstanding any express, implied or constructive notices, be entitled in priority over the other according to the date and time of the record of each mortgage in the register book and not according to the date of each mortgage itself.
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$760 inclusive of courier fees.
Useful Addresses	<p>Cambodia Ship Registry 10 Anson Road #25-15 International Plaza Singapore 079903 Tel: +65 225 1115 Fax: +65 323 7773 E-mail: csrship@singnet.com.sg Website: www.csrship.com</p>

Cayman Islands

No. of Ships	250
Tonnage	No restrictions.
Age Limit	25 years (discretionary).
Size Restrictions	No restrictions*.
Ownership Requirements	Qualifying Parties: British subjects; Nationals of any of EU or EEA State, including their overseas territories, bodies corporate and "shipping entities" established in and having a place of business in any of the above States or Territories. Shipping entities include partnerships, exempted limited partnerships and any other similar entities regardless of whether they have a legal personality separate and distinct from those of their members; Foreign Companies registered in the Cayman Islands under the relevant Cayman Islands law and having a place of business within the islands.
Documents Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application to register at the Port of George Town; ◆ notice of name proposed for a British ship; ◆ appointment of authorised officer/agent; ◆ declaration of ownership on behalf of body corporate; ◆ declaration of private use (for pleasure craft); ◆ undertaking to mark vessel for conditional registration; ◆ appointment of representative person (for owners not residing in Cayman Islands); ◆ title documents; ◆ certificate of good standing; ◆ certificate of incorporation; ◆ certificate of survey.
Registration Fees	<p>First Registration, Registration Anew, Re-registration or transfer to another port:-</p> <p>Vessel up to 150 grt - US\$300 150 grt – 400 grt - US\$350 400 grt – 1,500 grt - US\$700 1,500 grt and more - US\$1,000</p> <p>Registration of Transfer of Ownership:-</p> <p>Vessel up to 150 grt - US\$200 150 grt – 400 grt - US\$250 400 grt – 1,500 grt - US\$275 1,500 grt and more - US\$400</p> <p>Annual Fee:-</p> <p>Minimum fee - US\$100 Per grt for the first 1,000 tons - US\$0.40 Each additional ton above 1,000 grt - US\$0.14.</p>
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS, RINA – for the vessels located outside the Cayman Islands. Vessels located within the Cayman Islands will be surveyed by the Registry.
Crew Nationality	No restriction on nationality.
Parallel Registration	Allowed both in and out of Registry.
Flag of Convenience	Yes.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW, COLREG, CLC, FUND, INMARSAT and all other major maritime Conventions.
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form is accepted and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Shipping Registry. However, care should be taken to ascertain whether or not these documents also need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate.
Mortgage Registration Fee	Vessels up to 1,500 grt - US\$200 Vessels of 1,500 grt and more - US\$350
Useful Addresses	<p>Cayman Islands Shipping Registry Elizabethan Square Phase IV PO Box 2256 GT Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands Tel: +345 949 8831, Fax : +345 949 8849 E-mail: CISR@candw.ky</p>

* Does not accept any fishing vessels

Cyprus

No. of Ships	1,475		
Tonnage	23,206,439 grt		
Age Limit	15 years*		
Size Restrictions	None.		
Ownership Requirements	More than half the shares in the ship must be owned by a Cypriot national, by a company established and having its registered office in Cyprus or (with specific authorisation) by a company registered outside of Cyprus but controlled by Cypriots. Applications for registration of ships must be made through Cypriot lawyers. At the time of registration the ship must be surveyed by an approved classification society.		
Documents Required	<p>For provisional registration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ certificate of deletion or confirmation from the previous registry as to ownership of the ship and its freedom from encumbrances; ◆ notarised and legalised bill of sale; ◆ resolutions of the directors of the owning company plus any power of attorney executed pursuant thereto; ◆ declaration of ownership and appointment of ship's husband; ◆ application for a radio licence; ◆ copy of the current tonnage certificate*. <p>For permanent registration (within 9 months):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Cypriot tonnage certificate and the certificate of survey; ◆ certificate of deletion from the previous registry (unless already submitted); ◆ copies of all statutory certificates; ◆ completed carving and marking note and a copy of the agreement with the radio accounting authority regarding payment of radio licence fees. 		
Registration Fees	There is a fee payable on provisional registration between a minimum of €125 and a maximum of €3,000 depending on the grt of the ship. The tariff differs for passenger vessels. No other fee is payable on permanent registration provided this takes place before the provisional registration expires. An Annual Tonnage Tax is payable according to the tonnage and age of the ship with discounts if the crew and technical management of the ship are carried out by a Cypriot company and (other than in the case of a passenger ship) if the crew comprises Cypriot seamen.		
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, CBS, LRS, DNV, BV, GL, RINA, HRS, RNR, PRS, NKK, KRS, CCS, MRS.		
Crew Nationality	The existing regulations provide that at least 15% of the crew must be Cypriots. However, due to the limited availability of Cypriot seamen, crew members may be of any nationality but must be holders of recognised countries' certificates of competency.		
Parallel Registration	A bareboat charterparty to a Cypriot company is permitted if the consent of the principal flag of registry (and the mortgagees) is obtained. Parallel registration out of the Cypriot Registry is also permitted. The fees for parallel registration of a ship are 20% higher than those referred to above.		
Flag of Convenience	Yes.		
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	MARPOL, CLC, COLREG, STCW, FUND, SOLAS, INMARSAT.		
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form is accepted and will need to be registered. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which will also be subject to registration. Care should be taken to ascertain whether these documents also need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) if the owner is a body corporate. The mortgage and Deed of Covenants will normally need to be notarised and legalised.		
Mortgage Registration Fee	€0.02 per grt up to 10,000 grt (subject to a minimum of €30) and €0.01 per grt thereafter.		
Useful Addresses	<p>Department of Merchant Shipping Ministry of Communications and Works PO Box 6193 CY3305 Limassol, Cyprus Tel: +357 25 848100, Fax: +357 25 848200 E-mail: dms@cytanet.com.cy</p>	<p>Cyprus High Commission 93 Park Street London W1Y 4ET Tel: 020 7499 8272 Fax: 020 7491 0691 E-mail: dmslo@ukgateway.net</p>	<p>Central Bank of Cyprus PO Box 5529 Nicosia, Cyprus Tel: +357 2445281 Fax: +357 2472012 E-mail: idoe@centralbank.gov.cy</p>

* Vessels over 15 years of age may be registered in the Cyprus Register of Ships under additional conditions, which must be fulfilled concurrently with the submission of the application for registration and must be complied with at all times while the vessel remains registered, irrespective of any subsequent transfer of ownership.

■ 3 month extension may be obtained upon application.

Denmark

No. of Ships	451		
Tonnage	6,871,000 grt		
Age Limit	No restriction provided the technical standard is satisfactory.		
Size Restrictions	20 grt*		
Ownership Requirements	The ship must be Danish owned or owned by a foreign company in which a Danish citizen or company owns at least 20% of the capital and exercises a considerable degree of influence in voting rights. The foreign company must also appoint a representative in Denmark.		
Documents Required	An application must be made on the appropriate application form and must be accompanied by the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ evidence of ownership (e.g. bill of sale or builder's certificate); ◆ certificate of deletion of the ship from the previous registry; ◆ certificate from the previous registry confirming ownership details. As part of the application the owner must also make a declaration that the ship will trade within the limits specified by Article 4 of the Danish Merchant Marine Act and a further declaration regarding compliance with the ownership requirements including (for a foreign Shipowner) details of 20% Danish ownership.		
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of 1 DKr per thousand of the contract price of second-hand tonnage. There is no Annual Fee levied. Fees are also payable to the Danish Welfare Board according to the number of seamen employed.		
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, GL, LRS, DNV, NKK.		
Crew Nationality	There are no restrictions other than that the Master must be Danish (although on rare occasions dispensation from this requirement can be obtained). Certificates from STCW countries will generally be acceptable.		
Parallel Registration	Not Permitted.		
Flag of Convenience	No, although the status of the DIS is currently under review and changes to the register are expected.		
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, MARPOL, STCW, INMARSAT, CLC, FUND.		
Type of Mortgage	A specific Danish form is required although ancillary documentation in English (e.g. Deed of Covenants) is permitted. The mortgage must be registered with the DIS.		
Mortgage Registration Fee	Registration fee of 1 DKr per thousand of the amount secured.		
Useful Addresses	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Royal Danish Register of Shipping Danish Maritime Authority Vermundsgade 38C DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø DENMARK Tel: +45 39174400 Fax: +45 39174418 E-mail: SGR@dma.dk </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Danish Shipowners' Association P O Box 3037 Amaliegade 33 DK-1256 Copenhagen K DENMARK Tel: +45 3311 4088 Fax: +45 3311 6210 E-mail: info@danmarksrederiforening.dk </td> </tr> </table>	Royal Danish Register of Shipping Danish Maritime Authority Vermundsgade 38C DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø DENMARK Tel: +45 39174400 Fax: +45 39174418 E-mail: SGR@dma.dk	Danish Shipowners' Association P O Box 3037 Amaliegade 33 DK-1256 Copenhagen K DENMARK Tel: +45 3311 4088 Fax: +45 3311 6210 E-mail: info@danmarksrederiforening.dk
Royal Danish Register of Shipping Danish Maritime Authority Vermundsgade 38C DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø DENMARK Tel: +45 39174400 Fax: +45 39174418 E-mail: SGR@dma.dk	Danish Shipowners' Association P O Box 3037 Amaliegade 33 DK-1256 Copenhagen K DENMARK Tel: +45 3311 4088 Fax: +45 3311 6210 E-mail: info@danmarksrederiforening.dk		

* Fishing vessels and pleasure yachts cannot be registered.

Greece

No. of Ships	1967*
Tonnage	27,243,169 grt*
Age Limit	"
Size Restrictions	100 grt
Ownership Requirements	Vessels eligible for registration under the Greek flag shall be owned by Greek, EU, or EEA natural or legal persons in a percentage exceeding 50%. In addition to the above, the shipowning EU or EEA entity is required to have a form of establishment in Greece according to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty.
Documents Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ shipowner's application; ◆ evidence of vessel's ownership (e.g. bill of sale); ◆ declaration of appointment of a representative or guarantor and a process agent in Greece; ◆ no deletion certificates required except for the registries of Egypt, Albania, Bulgaria, Germany, Georgia, Estonia, Jordan, Italy, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Russia, S. Africa, Tunisia (mandatory by bilateral agreements); ◆ certified copy of vessel's existing certificate of registry/certificate of nationality; ◆ certified copy of vessel's tonnage certificate and applicant's written statement that no changes have been effected to the ship's particulars; ◆ vessel's customs clearance certificate (not required in case of a vessel flying an EU flag prior to registration); ◆ applicant's written statement that the ship is not registered in another Greek registry (whether domestic or abroad) and that all relevant certificates will be replaced in due course.
Registration Fees	There are no Initial Registration Fees although there are minimum documentation dues and often small charges together with an Annual Tonnage Tax according to the size and type of the ship.
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, HRS, KRS, LRS, NKK, RINA.
Crew Nationality	<p>The Master and the deck officer next in rank to the Master and upon whom the command of the ship will fall in the event of incapacity of the Master must always be Greek. Wherever in a crew complement existing legislation provides for a certain number of officers or ratings to be Greek, this number can also be covered by other EU nationals, without prior authorisation by the Maritime Authorities on an ad hoc basis.</p> <p>Under the new tonnage-linked manning scale, ocean going cargo vessels flying the Greek flag must have between 5 and 7 Greek officers plus 3-4 nationals serving in lower deck jobs. In addition, one cadet is employed on every ship performing his sea training course provided by the existing education system.</p>
Parallel Registration	Not Permitted.
Flag of Convenience	No.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, INMARSAT, STCW, MARPOL, CLC, FUND etc.
Type of Mortgage	Either an ordinary mortgage in compliance with Articles 95 - 204 of the Private Maritime Code or a preferred mortgage pursuant to legislative decree 3899/58 granted by a notarial deed in Greece and recorded in the relevant registry of mortgages.
Mortgage Registration Fee	No registration fees - notarial fees only.
Useful Addresses	<p>Greek Ministry of Shipping Ministry of Mercantile Marine General Directorate of Shipping Policy Shipping Policy & Development Directorate 152 Gr. Lambrakis Avenue 18518 Piraeus GREECE Tel: +30 10 412 1211/ 419 1248 Fax: +30 10 419 1563/ 411 5798/ 417 0855</p>

* Source : National Statistical service of Greece – December 2000

* Generally there is no age limit applied on a ship's entry into the Greek Registry. However, passenger ships flying the flag of an EU or EEA Member State (except Switzerland), engaged in domestic scheduled passenger transport (cabotage) in Greece, in order to remain in service, must not have completed the 35 years age limit during the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, the 34 years age limit on 31.12.2006, the 32 years age limit on 31.12.2007 and the 30 years age limit on 31.12.2008. The above provision will enter into force on 1st November 2002 (L.2932/2001); until then the 35 years age limit will be maintained solely for Greek passenger ships engaged in cabotage.

Honduras

No. of Ships	1,407		
Tonnage	1,110,989 grt		
Age Limit	25 years*		
Size Restrictions	No restriction.		
Ownership Requirements	Registration is open to all national and foreign ship owners doing business.		
Documents Required	Apply through resident agent (Honduras Maritime Bureau Inc. "H.M.B.") by granting a public deed or a power of attorney to a Honduran lawyer duly notarised and authenticated by a Honduran Consul abroad and submitting : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ evidence of ownership (e.g. bill of sale or builder's certificate); ◆ tonnage certificate; ◆ application for provisional patent; ◆ deletion certificate; ◆ permanent patent application; ◆ survey. 		
Registration Fees	Initial fee between US\$250 and US\$3,000 and Annual Tonnage Tax between US\$250 and US\$1,500 and Annual Inspection fee between US\$400 and US\$1,200 depending upon size. Vessels registered at the same date are taken as one for the purposes of size and fees.		
Approved Classification Societies	HINSIB, ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LR, NKK or RINA.		
Crew Nationality	90% of the crew should be Honduran. If no Honduran crew are available, a waiver is granted. Safe Manning Certificates are required.		
Parallel Registration	Acceptable in and out for a maximum of 2 years based on the length of the charter contract.		
Flag of Convenience	May be defined as flag of convenience on a ship by ship basis.		
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, STCW, INMARSAT, MARPOL.		
Type of Mortgage	Naval Mortgages are inscribed in the Registry of Real Estate and Mercantile Property.		
Mortgage Registration Fee	Between US\$150 and US\$600 depending on grt.		
Useful Addresses	The Maritime Group HQ PO Box 301, Office inc. 35 Toncontin, Tegucigalpa, HONDURAS, CA Tel: +504 221 0721/3036 Fax: +504 236 8866	The Maritime Group H.I.N.S.I.B Technical Office inc. 2121 Ponce de Léon Blvd. Suite 725 Coral Gables, FL 33134 USA Tel: +1 305 447 8927	Honduras Consulate in New York 80 Wall Street, Suite 415 New York, NY 10005 USA Tel: +1 212 269 3611 Fax: +1 212 509 8391

* When the vessel is older than 25 years an appropriate seaworthiness or class certificate is required.

Hong Kong

No. of Ships	624*	
Tonnage	12,576,126 grt*	
Age Limit	No restriction*.	
Size Restrictions	No restriction.	
Ownership Requirements	The majority interest in the ship must be owned by a qualified person i.e. a Hong Kong resident, a body corporate incorporated in Hong Kong or an overseas company registered with a place of business in Hong Kong. An authorised representative must also be appointed in Hong Kong. A ship must undergo a statutory survey to ensure compliance with all relevant regulations before registration.	
Documents Required	<p>A formal application must be made accompanied by the following documents:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application form; ◆ form of authority for making and signing applications and declarations; ◆ declaration of entitlement to own Hong Kong-registered ship; ◆ builder's certificate for new ship or bill of sale; ◆ certificate or evidence of deletion from previous registry; ◆ original or certified true copy of certificate of incorporation or registration in Hong Kong or Hong Kong identity card of owner, as appropriate; ◆ original or certified true copy of certificate of incorporation and memorandum of association of the representative person appointed in relation to the ship, where applicable; ◆ certificate of survey; ◆ certificate or declaration of marking of ship. 	
Registration Fees	<p>Initial Fee:- HK\$3,500 for ships of up to 500 grt. HK\$15,000 for ships over 500 grt.</p> <p>Annual Fee:- HK\$1,500 for ships of up to 1,000 nrt with an additional HK\$3.50 for each nrt between 1,001 - 15,000 plus an additional HK\$3.00 for each nrt between 15,001 upwards subject to a maximum charge of HK\$100,000.</p>	
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, CCS, DNV, LRS, GL, NKK.	
Crew Nationality	No specific requirements although Safe Manning Certificates are required.	
Parallel Registration	Not permitted although a ship on demise charter to a body corporate being a qualified person may be registered even if a majority interest in the ship is not owned by a qualified person, provided it is not also registered elsewhere.	
Flag of Convenience	No.	
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, STCW, INMARSAT, MARPOL, CLC, FUND, International Load Line Convention 1966, Tonnage Measurement of Ships 1969.	
Type of Mortgage	Mortgages are ranked in priority according to the date and time when they are presented and accepted for registration and not according to the date of the actual mortgage instrument. Mortgagees need not be qualified persons; foreign bodies corporate can be registered as mortgagees. A mortgage is executed under seal and witnessed. In case of a body corporate, it should also be in accordance with its article of association.	
Mortgage Registration Fee	HK\$440.	
Useful Addresses	<p>Registrar of Ships Marine Department Harbour Building 38 Pier Road GPO Box 4155 HONG KONG Tel: +852 2852 4383 Fax: +852 2541 8842 Telex: 64553 MARHQ HX Website: www.info.gov.hk/mardep</p>	<p>Marine Adviser Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office 6 Grafton Street London W1X 3LB Tel: 020 7499 9821 Fax: 020 7495 5033 Fax: 020 7409 0647</p>

* as at 13/07/2001

* Registration may be refused if vessel is in an unsatisfactory condition.

Isle of Man

No. of Ships	258
Tonnage	5,933,683 grt
Age Limit	No restriction
Size Restrictions	No restriction
Ownership Requirements	The majority interest in the ship must be owned by a British citizen or subject who is established in the UK or by a company incorporated in the Isle of Man, UK, Channel Islands or any British colony, the Republic of Ireland or in a European Economic Area country (including EU countries) having its principal place of business in any such territory or certain prescribed limited partnerships.
Documents Required	An application for registration must be made in writing to the Isle of Man Marine Administration along with the following documents:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application for registry which includes name approval; ◆ evidence of ownership; ◆ declaration of ownership; ◆ tonnage measurement certificate; ◆ details of the manager or operational office in the Isle of Man; ◆ deletion certificate or evidence that the previous registry will be closed; ◆ certificate of incorporation of owner (if body corporate). Prior to registration the ship must also be inspected by a surveyor from the Isle of Man Marine Administration.
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of £400. There is no Annual Registration Fee based on tonnage or otherwise.
Approved Classification Societies	LRS, ABS, BV, DNV, GL, NKK and RINA.
Crew Nationality	Certificates of competency or service issued by the UK or other Commonwealth countries are acceptable for the purposes of certification or regulation. Other certificates considered on an ad-hoc basis.
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the registry is permitted.
Flag of Convenience	No
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	All the principal IMO Conventions have been adopted.
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form is accepted and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Shipping Registry. However, care should be taken to ascertain whether or not these documents also need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate.
Mortgage Registration Fee	£150
Useful Addresses	Mrs A Blythe, Registrar Department of Trade and Industry Marine Administration Peregrine House Peel Road DOUGLAS IM1 5EH Isle of Man British Isles Tel: 01624 688500 Fax: 01624 688501 E-mail: registry@shipping.dti.gov.im Website: www.gov.im/dti/shipping

Jamaica

No. of Ships	27
Tonnage	26,522 grt
Age Limit	No restriction but special survey requirements for vessels over 12 years old.
Size Restrictions	None.
Ownership Requirements	The ship must be wholly owned by a Jamaican citizen or a Commonwealth Citizen and/or a company incorporated according to the laws of Jamaica or business entities established outside Jamaica (so long as such business entities appoint a local Authorised Representative) or such other persons as may be permitted by the Jamaican legislature.
Documents Required	For provisional registration a signed declaration of ownership must be presented, accompanied by:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ full name and address of the owner; ◆ time and place where the vessel was first built; ◆ the owner's citizenship or national status or in the case of a body corporate or other entity, the place of incorporation or formation; ◆ in the case of a ship previously registered outside Jamaica, the name under which it was previously registered; ◆ the name of the master and his citizenship; ◆ application for registration; ◆ notice of name of ship; ◆ notice of the appointment of a ship's manager or agent; ◆ certificate of class; ◆ certified copy of International Tonnage Certificate (ITC) from previous registry; ◆ deletion certificate from the previous registry or evidence of permission to transfer; ◆ consent of mortgagees to the ships registration on the Jamaican Register; ◆ bill of sale or builder's certificate; ◆ radio call sign; ◆ certificate of incorporation and certificate of good standing. For permanent registration additional certificates must be presented, including a safe manning certificate, certificate of survey and carving and marking note.
Registration Fees	Minimum Initial Registration Fee of US\$525 up to 750 grt plus sliding scale of fees per ton (0.08 per grt 751 to 15,000 etc.) Minimum Annual Fee of US\$200 up to 750 grt, plus sliding scale of fees per ton thereafter (0.18 per grt 751 to 15,000 etc.)
Registration Period	Successive periods of 12 months.
Approved Classification Societies	All members of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS).
Crew Nationality	No restrictions on the nationality of the master, officers and crew - although incentives are provided to ship owners who employ Jamaican crew. Masters and officers serving on board Jamaican ships must hold a Jamaican Certificate of Competency or a Jamaican endorsed Certificate of Competency issued by a STCW 95 state party.
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the Jamaican flag is permitted.
Flag of Convenience	No.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	COLREGS, TONNAGE, LL, MARPOL, SOLAS, STCW, SAR, FUND PROT.
Type of Mortgage	A Jamaican ship may be security for a loan or other valuable consideration. Mortgages rank in priority according to when they are presented and accepted for registration in the prescribed form at the Shipping Registry. Where a mortgage prohibits the registration of further mortgages without consent of every mortgagee, an entry to this effect shall be entered into the register.
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$425
Useful Addresses	The Registrar of Ships The Maritime Authority of Jamaica 7th Floor, Dyoill Building 40 Knutsford Blvd Kingston 5 JAMAICA Tel: +876 9681020 Fax: +876 920 8775 E-mail: registrar@jamaicaships.com Website: www.jamaicaships.com

Liberia

No. of Ships	1,557		
Tonnage	51,450,917 grt		
Age Limit	20 years (subject to waiver).		
Size Restrictions	1,600 nrt (Subject to waiver).		
Ownership Requirements	Liberian citizen or national Liberian corporations, partnerships or undertakings registered in Liberia as Foreign Maritime Entities.		
Documents Required	<p>For provisional registration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application for an official number; ◆ power of attorney (or certified corporate resolutions); ◆ bill of sale or builder's certificate or other proof of ownership; ◆ confirmation of class and statement from class society re: surveys; ◆ proof of cancellation or consent to cancellation from previous registry; ◆ proof that the vessel is free from recorded liens; ◆ evidence of payment of registration fees and tonnage taxes; ◆ proof of P&I cover. <p>Within 30 days:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ report on safety inspection; ◆ application for Liberian ship radio licence; ◆ proof of cancellation from previous registry. <p>For permanent registration - all certificates required to comply with the relevant IMO conventions must have been issued by an authorised classification society.</p>		
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of US\$2,500 per vessel and an Annual Tonnage Tax of US\$0.40 per nrt. Other fees are payable in respect of marine investigations, the provision of certificates and annual return fees and registered agent's fees for Liberian corporations (currently US\$450).		
Approved Classification Societies	All members of IACS, ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS, NKK, RINA, CCRS, RRS, PRS and KRS.		
Crew Nationality	There are no nationality requirements for officers and crew. Officers must possess a Liberian licence valid for 5 years which may be issued against a recognised foreign licence.		
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the registry is permitted.		
Flag of Convenience	Yes.		
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, INMARSAT, STCW, FUND, CLC, MARPOL.		
Type of Mortgage	The form of mortgage must comply with and contain the information required by Chapter 3 of Title 22 of the Liberian Code 1956. All mortgages (in original form with 3 counterparts) have to be notarised and registered through the Liberian Registry in New York and must be accompanied by evidence of the debt (if not included in the mortgage itself), evidence of the authority of the person executing the mortgage on behalf of the owner and (if appropriate) the mortgagee (including an original or certified copy of any power of attorney) together with a memorandum of particulars of the mortgage.		
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$475		
Useful Addresses	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Liberian Int. Ship & Corporate Registry (UK) Ltd Dean Bradley House 52 Horseferry Road London SW1V 2AF Tel: 020 7799 3434 Fax: 020 7799 3456 E-mail: lisrcr@globalnet.co.uk</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding-left: 20px;"> <p>Liberian Flag Administration LISCR 8619 Westwood Centre Drive Suite 300 Vienna, Virginia Virginia 22182 USA Tel: +1 703 251 2405 Fax: +1 703 251 2405</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Liberian Int. Ship & Corporate Registry (UK) Ltd Dean Bradley House 52 Horseferry Road London SW1V 2AF Tel: 020 7799 3434 Fax: 020 7799 3456 E-mail: lisrcr@globalnet.co.uk</p>	<p>Liberian Flag Administration LISCR 8619 Westwood Centre Drive Suite 300 Vienna, Virginia Virginia 22182 USA Tel: +1 703 251 2405 Fax: +1 703 251 2405</p>
<p>Liberian Int. Ship & Corporate Registry (UK) Ltd Dean Bradley House 52 Horseferry Road London SW1V 2AF Tel: 020 7799 3434 Fax: 020 7799 3456 E-mail: lisrcr@globalnet.co.uk</p>	<p>Liberian Flag Administration LISCR 8619 Westwood Centre Drive Suite 300 Vienna, Virginia Virginia 22182 USA Tel: +1 703 251 2405 Fax: +1 703 251 2405</p>		

Luxembourg

No. of Ships	94
Tonnage	1,356,492 grt
Age Limit	15 years.
Size Restrictions	25 nrt
Ownership Requirements	Half of the shares in the ship must be owned by a European National or a company having its registered office in a member state of the EU. Ships on bareboat charter or operated by qualified persons can be registered provided that all or at least a significant part of the management of the ship is undertaken from Luxembourg.
Documents Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ declaration containing details of the ship, ownership, description of management responsibilities etc; ◆ evidence/declaration of ownership; ◆ deed of agreement of owners to register the ship under the Luxembourg flag; ◆ registration claim sent to the minister for maritime affairs; ◆ different documentation required for bareboat chartered vessels - see Articles 6, 11, and 13 of the Luxembourg Public Maritime Registry Rules of 17th June 1994.
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of ECU 2,000 per ship. Thereafter there is an Annual Fee of ECU 2,000 plus a payment based on the net tonnage and age of the ship, up to ECU 1.00 per nrt for the first year of registration and ECU 0.65 per nrt in subsequent years.
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LR, RINA, NKK.
Crew Nationality	The Master must be an EU national and hold a certificate acceptable to the Luxembourg authorities. Any seaman's certificate accepted by an EU member state will be acceptable in Luxembourg.
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the registry is permitted.
Flag of Convenience	No.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	All the principal IMO Conventions have been adopted.
Type of Mortgage	The mortgage must comply with Articles 2124, 2125 and 2126 of the Luxembourg Civil Code. The mortgage remains valid for 10 years from the date of its creation and ceases to be valid if it has not been renewed by the end of that term.
Mortgage Registration Fee	Approx US\$15 (fee of the registrar).
Taxation	Revenue earned from the operation of ships flying the Luxembourg flag is taxable at a rate of 34.32%. A tax credit is possible.
Useful Addresses	<p>Marc Glodt Maritime Commissioner Ministry of Transportation 26 Place de la Gare L-1616 Luxembourg BP2636 L-1026 Luxembourg Tel: +352 478 4453 Fax: +352 299 140 Telex: 60720 CAM LU E-mail: cam@cam.smtp.etat.lu Website: www.etat.lu/CAM</p>

Madeira

No. of Ships	132																				
Tonnage	982,350 grt																				
Age Limit	No restriction.																				
Size Restrictions	No restriction.																				
Ownership Requirements	Initial survey. No requirement for local ownership.																				
Documents Required*	<p>For permanent registration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ power of attorney granted by the applicant to a local legal representative; ◆ articles of association of applicant or proof that applicant is licensed to do business in Madeira; ◆ bill of sale; ◆ certificate issued by the previous registry; ◆ deletion certificate; ◆ permission granted by the mortgagee(s). <p>For Temporary Registration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ power of attorney granted by the applicant to a local legal representative; ◆ articles of association of applicant or proof that applicant is licensed to do business in Madeira; ◆ certificate issued by the permanent registry; ◆ permission granted by the mortgagee(s); ◆ permission granted by the state of proprietary registration; ◆ permission granted by the shipowner; ◆ bareboat charter. 																				
Registration Fees*	<p>Initial fee:- Fixed fee of US\$2,000 plus variable fees as follows:-</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>0 nrt - 250 nrt</td> <td>- US\$225</td> </tr> <tr> <td>250 nrt - 2500 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.90 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,500 nrt - 10,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.75 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10,000 nrt - 20,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.60 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>US\$0.10 X nrt less for every subsequent 10,000 nrt.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anything over 60,000 is US\$0.10 X nrt.</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Annual fee:- Fixed fee of US\$1,500 plus variable fees as follows:</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>0 nrt - 250 nrt</td> <td>- US\$200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>250 nrt - 2,500 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.80 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,500 nrt - 20,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.40 X nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20,000 nrt and above</td> <td>- US\$0.25 X nrt</td> </tr> </table>	0 nrt - 250 nrt	- US\$225	250 nrt - 2500 nrt	- US\$0.90 X nrt	2,500 nrt - 10,000 nrt	- US\$0.75 X nrt	10,000 nrt - 20,000 nrt	- US\$0.60 X nrt	US\$0.10 X nrt less for every subsequent 10,000 nrt.		Anything over 60,000 is US\$0.10 X nrt.		0 nrt - 250 nrt	- US\$200	250 nrt - 2,500 nrt	- US\$0.80 X nrt	2,500 nrt - 20,000 nrt	- US\$0.40 X nrt	20,000 nrt and above	- US\$0.25 X nrt
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20,000 nrt and above	- US\$0.25 X nrt																				
Approved Classification Societies	LRS, BV, DNV, RINA, ABS, GL, RINA, NKK.																				
Crew Nationality	The Master must always be an EC national, 50% of crew must be from European Union countries although dispensation from this requirement can be obtained. No rules on nationality of yacht crews.																				
Parallel Registration	Possible to bareboat charter in or out but only temporarily.																				
Flag of Convenience	No.																				
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, CLC, MARPOL, FUND, INMARSAT, STCW, COLREG.																				
Type of Mortgage	Possible for parties to agree in writing that the law of another country will apply (copy of that country's relevant legal provisions required in this case). Mortgage deed need only be signed by both parties and accompanied by a Portuguese translation certified by a Portuguese notary. Must also be accompanied by application form and declaration that vessel is already registered in Madeira.																				
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$300																				
Useful Addresses	<p>Technical Commission MAR - Madeira International Shipping Register PO Box 494 9006 Funchal Codex Madeira PORTUGAL Tel: +351 291 201 930 Fax: +351 291 223121 Telex: 72676 REGMAR P</p>																				

* Documents for permanent registration must be translated into Portuguese (certified translation).

■ As of 01.01.02 registration fees are calculated in Euros.

Malta

No. of Ships	Over 1,505		
Tonnage	28,170,010 grt		
Age Limit	No restriction but special survey requirements for vessels over 20 years old.		
Size Restrictions	None*.		
Ownership Requirements	The ship must be wholly owned by a Maltese citizen and/or a company incorporated according to the laws of Malta and having a place of business in Malta. Registration of a body corporate in Malta is a simple procedure with no nationality requirements as to shareholders or directors.		
Documents Required	<p>For provisional registration (for 6 months)* :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application for registration; ◆ application for a change of name (if required); ◆ declaration of ownership and proof of eligibility (including Memorandum and Articles of Company); ◆ evidence of seaworthiness (normally class certificates); ◆ evidence of the payment of initial registration fees and annual registration fees for the first year of registration; ◆ copy of the ship's international tonnage certificate. <p>For permanent registration (within the provisional period):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ bill of sale or builder's certificate; ◆ certificate of deletion of the ship from the previous registry (if applicable); ◆ the carving and marking note; ◆ list of crew and copies of the officer's certificates of competence; ◆ copies of the load line certificates; ◆ certificate of survey; ◆ application for ship station licence; ◆ radio installation survey report. 		
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of M€0.1 per nrt for the first 8,000 tons (minimum M€50) and M€0.03 for each additional nrt thereafter. There is an Annual Fee of M€0.15 per nrt for the first 8,000 tons (minimum fee M€75) with a reducing scale thereafter.		
Registration Period	Successive periods of 12 months.		
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, HRS, LRS, NKK, RINA KRS (full recognition). ZC, CRS, PRS, RRS (partial recognition).		
Crew Nationality	There are no restrictions on the nationality of the Master, officers and crew - although if Maltese crew are not employed the above registration fees will be increased slightly. Maltese certificates of competence are issued but any foreign certificates granted after an examination will normally be treated as equivalent.		
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the Maltese flag is permitted.		
Flag of Convenience	Yes.		
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	CLC, COLREG, FUND, INMARSAT, MARPOL, SOLAS, STCW.		
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form is required and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Shipping Registry. Under current Maltese legislation the mortgage does not need to be registered against a Maltese owning company itself but has to be executed in Malta.		
Mortgage Registration Fee	M€50.		
Useful Addresses	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Merchant Shipping Directorate Malta Maritime Authority Maritime House Lascaris Wharf Valletta VLT 01 MALTA Tel: +356 250360 Fax: +356 241460</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Company Formation: Registrar of Companies Registry of Companies Malta Financial Services Centre Notabile Road, Attard MALTA Tel: +356 441155 Fax: +356 441195</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Merchant Shipping Directorate Malta Maritime Authority Maritime House Lascaris Wharf Valletta VLT 01 MALTA Tel: +356 250360 Fax: +356 241460</p>	<p>Company Formation: Registrar of Companies Registry of Companies Malta Financial Services Centre Notabile Road, Attard MALTA Tel: +356 441155 Fax: +356 441195</p>
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* Note that ships having an nrt in excess of 1,000 are "exempted ships", the owners of which will be exempt from income tax etc.
 * This period may be extended to 1 year upon application.

Marshall Islands

No. of Ships	414*
Tonnage	12,266,701 grt
Age Limit	20 years.
Size Restrictions	No restrictions.
Ownership Requirements	Ownership must be in the name of a Marshall Islands national, corporation, limited or general partnership, limited liability company, trust, or foreign maritime entity qualified in the Marshall Islands.
Documents Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application for official number, call sign and registration of vessel; ◆ bill of sale or builder's certificate transferring title to applicant (3 copies are sufficient); ◆ power of attorney or secretary's certificate of corporate resolution; ◆ certificate of confirmation of class issued by classification society dated no earlier than 10 days prior to registration; ◆ classification society statement or affidavit that the vessel is "fit to proceed to sea"; ◆ special survey on vessels 15 years or older from the classification society; ◆ application for minimum safe manning certificate (this is submitted to the seafarers' identification and certification division prior to registration); ◆ ISM code declaration of company and designated person; ◆ proof of liability insurance, including owner's repatriation obligations; ◆ permission to transfer or cancellation certificate issued by the registry from which the vessel is being transferred; ◆ proof that vessel is free of recorded liens and encumbrances; ◆ within 90 days of registration, an application for ship radio station licence must be submitted; ◆ if the name of the vessel is to be changed at the time of re-flagging to the Marshall Islands, then all applications should be filed using the new name of the vessel, and should also list the vessel's former name in the space provided.
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of US\$2,500 per vessel. Thereafter there is a Re-registration Fee of US\$1,500 plus an Annual Tonnage Tax based on US\$20 per net ton. The minimum Annual Tonnage Tax will not be less than US\$500.
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, CCS, DNV, GL, KRS, LR, NKK, PRS, RINA, RS.
Crew Nationality	No required nationality.
Parallel Registration	Data unavailable at time of publication.
Flag of Convenience	Yes.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, STCW, INMARSAT, MARPOL, CLC, FUND, Tonnage, Salvage.
Type of Mortgage	The Marshall Islands Maritime Act incorporates provisions for the recordation of security-related instruments and documents of title. Preferred status, accorded to a mortgage under the Act, gives priority to the lender's mortgage lien over those of certain other claimants. However, since 10 March, 2000, owners now have an option to "lack on" a previously recorded mortgage. To continue the preferred status of a previously recorded foreign mortgage, owners may submit the recorded foreign mortgage and a simple (signed) mortgage instrument which will be recorded when the vessel is registered in the Marshall Islands. This mortgage instrument will change the governing law of the mortgage to reflect the Marshall Islands as the law governing the mortgage.
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$100 for commercial vessels and US\$50 for private yachts.
Taxation	Data unavailable at time of publication.
Useful Addresses	Ms. Lorraine Henderson Rowe International Registries, Inc. Vessel Registration & Mortgage Recordation Tower 49, Suite 1200 12 East 49th Street New York, New York 10017-1028 USA Tel: +1 212 486 0042 ext. 419 Fax: +1 212 486 5313 E-mail: lrowe@register-iri.com Website: www.register-iri.com

* As at 31st January 2002

Netherlands

No. of Ships	755*										
Tonnage	4,600,000 grt*										
Age Limit	"										
Size Restrictions	"										
Ownership Requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ownership of a Dutch registered vessel needs to be for at least 2/3 natural persons or legal entities having an EU or an EER nationality. 2. Establishment of a business location according to Dutch Commercial Code. 3. The main part of a ship's management is conducted from Holland. 4. Responsibility for the vessels lies with a person having the EU or EES nationality and that is authorized for all matters concerning management of vessel and crew. 										
Documents Required	For provisional registration* - An application for registration must be accompanied by:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ statement of Declaration of Nationality for Sea Going Vessels; ◆ tonnage certificate; ◆ evidence of title (e.g. builder's certificate or a copy bill of sale). 										
Registration Fees	<table> <tr> <td>Tonnage Certificate:</td> <td>Hfl. 1 188. -</td> <td>€539.09</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Declaration of Nationality:</td> <td>Hfl. 188. -</td> <td>€85.31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Certificate of Registry:</td> <td>Hfl. 158. -</td> <td>€71.70</td> </tr> </table> <p>The costs for certification of foreign classed vessels is subject to tariffs stipulated in "Regeling Tarieven Schepenwet 1999" and vary from fl. 5,878 for small passenger vessels (<500G1) up to 25,364: for vessel over 9000 grt. For other vessels like dry-cargo vessels, oil, chemical and gas tankers the rates are between fl. 3,918 and fl. 6,005. For periodical renewal of certificates the amounts mentioned above are charged for a period of 5 years.</p> <p>Radio Licence: Hfl. 480. - €217.82</p>		Tonnage Certificate:	Hfl. 1 188. -	€539.09	Declaration of Nationality:	Hfl. 188. -	€85.31	Certificate of Registry:	Hfl. 158. -	€71.70
Tonnage Certificate:	Hfl. 1 188. -	€539.09									
Declaration of Nationality:	Hfl. 188. -	€85.31									
Certificate of Registry:	Hfl. 158. -	€71.70									
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS and RINA.										
Crew Nationality	<p>The Master shall have Dutch nationality. Owners can apply for a temporary exemption and employ a qualified citizen from the European Community or from the European Economic Space (EES). Legislation to ease this requirement is presently being discussed in Parliament. There are no further limitations on the nationality of officers and crew, but all positions mentioned in the Safe Manning Certificate are to be held by seaman with a valid Dutch Certificate of Competency. If non-Dutch officers are employed, a Licence for the employment of non-EU officers (RTO Licence) needs to be applied for at the Royal Association of Dutch Ship Owners (KVNVR).</p> <p>If non-Dutch crew is employed, a 'Licence for the employment of non-EU seafarers' (RAZ licence) needs to be applied for at the Exemption Committee of the Sectorial Raard of Merchant Shipping and Mobile Offshore. From 1st February 2002, Certificates of Competency will be issued to seafarers, that can present STCW 95 certificates issued by the authorities of countries with which a bilateral agreement has been concluded regarding capacities of seafarers from these countries.</p>										
Parallel Registration	Bareboat registration in or out of the registry is permitted.										
Flag of Convenience	No.										
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	All principal IMO conventions have been adopted.										
Type of Mortgage	Vessels can only be mortgaged when registered in Dutch land registry (Kadaster) by deed of a public notary, according to the Dutch Civil Code (Burgerlijk Wetboek) Title 3, Article 1 U.										
Mortgage Registration Fee	Costs for this registration depend on the complexity of the vessel's finance structure and on the amount of money involved. An amount of fl. 1,000 is the minimum rate.										
Useful Addresses	Scheepvaart Inspectie P.O. Box 8634 3009 AP ROTTERDAM 's-Gravenhaagseweg 665 3065 SC ROTTERDAM Tel: +31(0)10 266 85 00 Fax: +31(0)10 202 23 20 Website: www.minvenw.nl	Shipcon BV, maritime consultants P.O. Box 741 9400 AS ASSEN Vaart Zuid Zijde 35 5401 KASSEEN Tel: +31(0)592 398 340 Fax: +31(0)592 298 341 Website: www.shipcon.nl									

* As at 01/01/2001

" Only vessels registered with an Approved Classification Society (7) can apply for Dutch registration.

◆ The provisional Certificate of Registry remains valid for a period of no more than 6 months. During this period the registration procedure starts with submitting tile Form 235/1999 that need to be submitted in order to obtain long term certificates.

Netherlands Antilles

No. of Ships	97*												
Tonnage	812,000 grt*												
Age Limit	20 years subject to waiver by Principal Registrar.												
Size Restrictions	No restriction.												
Ownership Requirements	Must be owned by a Dutch, Aruban, Netherlands Antilles or EC corporation with limited liability meeting certain requirements, provided the owner is permanently represented in the Netherlands Antilles by a local.												
Documents Required	Written application for registration with:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ notice of vessel name; ◆ appointment of authorised officer; ◆ evidence of title; ◆ declaration of ownership; ◆ company incorporation certificate, certificate of good standing, certificate of incumbency; ◆ managing owner, manager or ship's husband, and appointment of local Netherlands Antilles representative; ◆ evidence of cancellation of previous registry; ◆ evidence of P&I cover; ◆ tonnage measurement certificate; ◆ evidence of seaworthiness; ◆ descriptive particulars survey certificate; ◆ radio accounting authority; ◆ minimum safe manning application. ◆ Copy of current SOLAS, load line and MARPOL certificates. 												
Registration Fees*	<p>Initial fee:-</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Less than 500 nrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- US\$4,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>500 - 2,000 nrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- US\$6,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,000 - 4,000 nrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- US\$7,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4,000 - 6,000 nrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- US\$7,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6,000 - 9,000 nrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- US\$8,250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More than 9000 nrt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">- US\$9,000</td> </tr> </table> <p>Annual fee:- US\$0.22 per nrt with a minimum of US\$560</p>	Less than 500 nrt	- US\$4,000	500 - 2,000 nrt	- US\$6,500	2,000 - 4,000 nrt	- US\$7,000	4,000 - 6,000 nrt	- US\$7,500	6,000 - 9,000 nrt	- US\$8,250	More than 9000 nrt	- US\$9,000
Less than 500 nrt	- US\$4,000												
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2,000 - 4,000 nrt	- US\$7,000												
4,000 - 6,000 nrt	- US\$7,500												
6,000 - 9,000 nrt	- US\$8,250												
More than 9000 nrt	- US\$9,000												
Approved Classification Societies	LRS, BV, DNV, RINA, ABS, GL, NKK.												
Crew Nationality	No restrictions provided all crew members hold a valid Netherlands Antilles Seamen's book. In addition, all non-Dutch officers must obtain permission to serve from the authorities. This is routinely granted.												
Parallel Registration	Possible to bareboat charter in or out.												
Flag of Convenience	No.												
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW, COLREG, LOAD LINES 78, ITC 69.												
Type of Mortgage	A mortgage is established by the execution of a deed of mortgage before a civil-law notary and the recording of an extract of that deed at the Office of the Registrar of Mortgagees and Ship's Certificates. In the event of default, the mortgagee may not take possession of the vessel or sell her privately, but has to sell the vessel in a public auction.												
Mortgage Registration Fee	Flat nominal fee.												
Useful Addresses	Shipping Inspectorate Netherlands Antilles Pletterijweg z/n Curacao, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES Tel: +599 9 461 2964 / 1421 Fax: +599 9 461-2964 E-mail: sina@curinfo.an												

* June 1998 figures (most recent available)

* These rates apply to all commercial ships, excluding tankers, passenger ships and fishing boats; different rates apply to vessels of these types.

Norway

No. of Ships	766			
Tonnage	19,084,985 grt			
Age Limit	No restriction provided the technical standard is satisfactory.			
Size Restrictions	Overall length must exceed 10m*.			
Ownership Requirements	Norwegian and foreign owned ships may be registered. Foreign owners need not establish a Norwegian based shipping company although they must appoint an authorised representative in Norway for the purposes of accepting service of legal process and must entrust either the technical or commercial management functions to a Norwegian manager, which must be either a Norwegian citizen, an unlimited partnership where all participants are Norwegian subjects or a Norwegian company where 60% of the capital and voting power is in Norwegian hands.			
Documents Required	An application for registration containing details of the ship, its owners and managers must be filed with the NIS accompanied by the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ application to the Norwegian Maritime Directorate for a name certificate; ◆ evidence of title (e.g. a bill of sale if the ship is being transferred to a new owner or a builder's certificate if it is the ship's first registration); ◆ international tonnage certificate endorsed by an approved classification society and submitted to the NIS directly by an approved classification society; ◆ (if appropriate) a certificate of deletion/freedom from encumbrances from the previous registry or a request for discharge of any registered encumbrances of which the registrar of the previous registry has confirmed due receipt; ◆ if the owner is non-Norwegian, a copy of the management agreement with the Norwegian manager and the letter appointing the authorised representative in Norway together with "firmatests" (certificates of good standing) relating to the manager and authorised representative; ◆ guarantee for wages; ◆ various information about the owner, including certification of registered companies; ◆ declaration of the nationality of the managers and representatives; ◆ provisional certificate of nationality. 			
Registration Fees	Fees are payable to the NIS Register: Nkr 6,782 payable upon registration and an annual fee of Nkr 5,800 for subsequent years. There are also fees to be paid to the Norwegian Maritime Directorate (NMD) which are calculated separately for each specific ship.			
Type of Mortgage	A statutory form of Norwegian mortgage is required which sets out specific details of the loan transaction. The mortgage must be registered with the NIS.			
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS.			
Crew Nationality	There are no restrictions on nationality of the crew except that the Master must be Norwegian (although an application for dispensation from this requirement can be made and such applications are normally treated favourably).			
Parallel Registration	Not permitted.			
Flag of Convenience	No, although the status of the NIS is currently under review.			
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, INMARSAT, STCW, MARPOL, CLC, FUND.			
Mortgage Registration Fees	Nkr 1,310.			
Useful Addresses	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 33%;"> The Norwegian International Ship Register PO Box 1013 Sentrum 5808, Bergen NORWAY Tel: +47 55 541250 (NIS direct after hours number) Fax: +47 541275 Mobile: 93084263/ 97717642/ 909 81440 E-mail: post@nis-nor.no Website: www.nis-nor.no </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 33%;"> The Royal Norway Embassy 25 Belgrave Square London SW1X Tel: 020 7235 7151 Fax: 020 7245 6993 </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 33%;"> Maritime Directorate P O Box 8123 DEP N-0032 Oslo Tel: +47 2245 4500 Fax: +47 2256 8780 Telex: 21557 SDIRN Website: www.nis-nor.no </td> </tr> </table>	The Norwegian International Ship Register PO Box 1013 Sentrum 5808, Bergen NORWAY Tel: +47 55 541250 (NIS direct after hours number) Fax: +47 541275 Mobile: 93084263/ 97717642/ 909 81440 E-mail: post@nis-nor.no Website: www.nis-nor.no	The Royal Norway Embassy 25 Belgrave Square London SW1X Tel: 020 7235 7151 Fax: 020 7245 6993	Maritime Directorate P O Box 8123 DEP N-0032 Oslo Tel: +47 2245 4500 Fax: +47 2256 8780 Telex: 21557 SDIRN Website: www.nis-nor.no
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* This condition may be waived if the vessel is solely or mainly engaged in commercial activity and not trading with Norway.

Panama

No. of Ships	6,184								
Tonnage	114,382,270 grt								
Age Limit	None*								
Size Restrictions	None.								
Ownership Requirements	A ship need not be owned by a Panamanian corporation or individual although a legal representative in Panama must be appointed.								
Documents Required	<p>A provisional navigation licence, valid for six months, and a radio licence, valid for three months, may be issued by the Panamanian Shipping Bureau upon application specifying (inter alia) the particulars of the ship, its owner, the classification society and details of the legal representative. This will entitle the ship to fly the Panamanian flag but does not amount to registration of ownership and does not enable mortgages to be registered against the ship.</p> <p>The following documents are required for that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ evidence of ownership (e.g. a notarially attested bill of sale or builder's certificate (x3)); ◆ certificate of cancellation from previous registry; ◆ notarised and legalised/apostilled power of attorney appointing Panamanian legal representatives; ◆ measurement certificate issued by an approved classification society; ◆ certificate of survey for vessels over 20 years (survey to be conducted within 6 months of provisional registration); ◆ radio licence and any agreement entered into with an approved radio accounting authority; ◆ various safety certificates. <p>Statutory navigation licence is issued once all documents received and title deed of vessel has been registered at the Public Office Registry Office. All notarised documents can be apostilled instead of being legalised by a Panamanian Consul.</p> <p>Special three-month registration period available for scrapping or delivery voyages. Mortgages can be registered during this period.</p>								
Registration Fees	<p>Initial Fee:-</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>0 - 2,000 grt</td> <td>- US\$500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2,001 - 5,000 grt</td> <td>- US\$2,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5,001 - 15,000 grt</td> <td>- US\$3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15,001 grt upwards</td> <td>- 3,000 plus US\$0.1 for each additional grt to a maximum of US\$6,500</td> </tr> </table> <p>Special registration costs US\$40 per nrt, minimum US\$300.</p> <p>Annual fee:-</p> <p>Annual Tonnage Tax of US\$0.1/nrt plus an Annual Single Rate according to the type and tonnage of the ship. Discounts on all fees where whole fleet registered together (up to 50%).</p>	0 - 2,000 grt	- US\$500	2,001 - 5,000 grt	- US\$2,000	5,001 - 15,000 grt	- US\$3,000	15,001 grt upwards	- 3,000 plus US\$0.1 for each additional grt to a maximum of US\$6,500
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2,001 - 5,000 grt	- US\$2,000								
5,001 - 15,000 grt	- US\$3,000								
15,001 grt upwards	- 3,000 plus US\$0.1 for each additional grt to a maximum of US\$6,500								
Registration Period	4 years for merchant ships.								
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, CRS, ZC, DNV, GL, HRS, YRB, KRS, LRS, NKK, PRS, RINA, RRS.								
Crew Nationality	There has previously been a requirement in the Panamanian Labour Code that 10% of the crew must be Panamanian but this is no longer imposed. Certificates of competency from other countries continue to be recognised although a new Panamanian certification system has been introduced.								
Parallel Registration	Registration of a bareboat charter to a Panamanian company for not more than 2 years is permitted and is subject to an extension for subsequent periods of 2 years.								
Flag of Convenience	Yes.								
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	SOLAS, COLREG, MARPOL, INMARSAT, CLC, STCW.								
Type of Mortgage	The form of mortgage has to comply with and contain the information required by Chapter V, Title IV of the Second Book of the Panamanian Commercial Code and must be executed, notarised and legalised in the form recognised by Panamanian law. The mortgage must be registered at the Panamanian Public Registry.								
Mortgage Registration Fee	Fees according to the amount secured (up to a maximum of US\$1,200) and according to the ship's nrt (up to a maximum of US\$600) together with a fixed registration fee of US\$750.								
Useful Addresses	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>Directorate General of Consular & Maritime Affairs (SEGUMAR)</p> <p>(a) 10th Floor 6th Avenue & West 48th Street New York, NY 10036, USA Tel: +1 212 8696440 Fax: +1 212 5752285 E-mail: info@segumar.com (b) PO Box 5245 Panama 5, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA Tel: +507 270 0333 Fax: +507 270 0996</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding-left: 20px;"> <p>Panamanian Consulate & Maritime Affairs</p> <p>Panama House 40 Hertford Street London W1Y 7TG, ENGLAND Tel: 020 7 409 22 55 Fax: 020 7 493 4499 Telex: 881 2982 Pancon G E-mail: panaconsul@ukonline.co.uk</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Directorate General of Consular & Maritime Affairs (SEGUMAR)</p> <p>(a) 10th Floor 6th Avenue & West 48th Street New York, NY 10036, USA Tel: +1 212 8696440 Fax: +1 212 5752285 E-mail: info@segumar.com (b) PO Box 5245 Panama 5, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA Tel: +507 270 0333 Fax: +507 270 0996</p>	<p>Panamanian Consulate & Maritime Affairs</p> <p>Panama House 40 Hertford Street London W1Y 7TG, ENGLAND Tel: 020 7 409 22 55 Fax: 020 7 493 4499 Telex: 881 2982 Pancon G E-mail: panaconsul@ukonline.co.uk</p>						
<p>Directorate General of Consular & Maritime Affairs (SEGUMAR)</p> <p>(a) 10th Floor 6th Avenue & West 48th Street New York, NY 10036, USA Tel: +1 212 8696440 Fax: +1 212 5752285 E-mail: info@segumar.com (b) PO Box 5245 Panama 5, REPUBLIC OF PANAMA Tel: +507 270 0333 Fax: +507 270 0996</p>	<p>Panamanian Consulate & Maritime Affairs</p> <p>Panama House 40 Hertford Street London W1Y 7TG, ENGLAND Tel: 020 7 409 22 55 Fax: 020 7 493 4499 Telex: 881 2982 Pancon G E-mail: panaconsul@ukonline.co.uk</p>								

* Ships over 20 years old are subject to special inspection before being issued with a certificate of registry.

Singapore

No. of Ships	3,353
Tonnage	23,167,237 grt
Age Limit	None*
Size Restrictions	1,600 grt*
Ownership Requirements	Ships must be registered under companies incorporated in Singapore or Singapore citizens and permanent residents. Companies can be locally owned or foreign owned. A locally owned company is one with the majority of its shares owned by locals. A foreign owned company is one where the majority of shares are held by non-Singaporeans.
Documents Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ approval of ship's name and allocation of official and call sign; ◆ RCB printout showing details of shareholders and paid-up capital of the company; ◆ import permit; ◆ tonnage certificate; ◆ appointment of agent for the registration of the ship; ◆ evidence of ownership; ◆ declaration of ownership; ◆ evidence of cancellation from former registry; ◆ evidence of seaworthiness; ◆ appointment of a manager resident in Singapore.
Registration Fees	An Initial Registration Fee of S\$2.50 per nrt is payable subject to a minimum of S\$1,250 (500 nrt) and a maximum of S\$1,000,000 (40,000 nrt). Discounted rate of S\$0.50 may apply subject to a minimum of S\$1,250 (2,500 nrt) and a maximum of S\$50,000 (100,000 nrt) per vessel.
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS, NKK, RINA, CCS, KRS.
Crew Nationality	There are no nationality requirements with regard to Singaporean foreign going ships and certificates of competency from most Commonwealth countries are recognised.
Parallel Registration	Not permitted.
Flag of Convenience	May be defined as a flag of convenience on a ship by ship basis.
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	COLREG, SOLAS, INMARSAT, STCW, MARPOL, CLC, 92.
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal and interest statutory mortgage form is required and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Shipping Registry. However, care should be taken to ascertain whether or not these documents also need to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate.
Mortgage Registration Fees	S\$48 plus S\$1 per 100 grt or part thereof.
Useful Addresses	Shipping Division, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore 460 Alexandra Road 21st Storey – PSA Building Singapore 119963 Tel: +65 375 6227; 375 6217 Fax: +65 375 6231 E-mail: marine@mpa.gov.sg Website: www.map.gov.sg

* Ships over 18 years old must be satisfactory condition in all respects.

■ Only applicable to foreign owned companies incorporated in Singapore. An exemption may be given on a case by case basis if vessels are operated in and from Singapore.

St. Vincent and The Grenadines

No. of Ships	2,475						
Tonnage	9,568,959 grt						
Age Limit	18 years (subject to waiver).						
Size Restrictions	None.						
Ownership Requirements	The ship must be owned by a citizen of St Vincent and The Grenadines domiciled in St Vincent and The Grenadines or by a body corporate, partnership or other association of individuals registered in accordance with the laws of St Vincent and The Grenadines and having its main office therein or by a body corporate, partnership or other association of individuals registered according to the laws of any other country which appoints a registered agent in St Vincent and The Grenadines.						
Documents Required	<p>For provisional registration - An application for registration must be accompanied by:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ a certificate of good standing; ◆ copy of ISM document of compliance of vessel's operator (when applicable); ◆ tonnage certificate; ◆ confirmation from the ship's classification society that the ship is in class and that classification will be retained on the transfer of flag; ◆ permission to transfer or a certificate of deletion of the ship from the existing registry or non-encumbrance certificate; ◆ evidence of title (e.g. builder's certificate or a copy bill of sale); ◆ confirmation that radio traffic accounts will be settled by the relevant accounting authority; ◆ evidence of payment of the initial registration and annual fees; ◆ details of insurance/P&I in application form. <p>For permanent registration:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ original notarially attested bill of sale or builder's certificate; ◆ original carving and marking note filled in and stamped by classification surveyor (submitted with provisional registration documents); ◆ original or a certified copy of the certificate of deletion of the ship from the previous registry; ◆ copies of the classification and statutory certificates; ◆ confirmation of vessel's coverage from the insurer and P&I. <p>For radio licence:- Original radio installations inspection report completed and stamped by classification surveyor (submitted with provisional documents).</p>						
Registration Fees	<p>There is an Initial Registration Fee of US\$500 for ships under 500 nrt increasing by US\$1 per nrt up to a maximum of US\$10,000 for vessels over 500 nrt. There is an Annual Fee of US\$200 for ships under 500nrt increasing according to tonnage as follows:-</p> <table style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>500 - 1,000 nrt</td> <td>- 0.40 per nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1,001 - 5,000 nrt</td> <td>- 0.20 per nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>over 5,001 nrt</td> <td>- 0.10 per nrt</td> </tr> </table>	500 - 1,000 nrt	- 0.40 per nrt	1,001 - 5,000 nrt	- 0.20 per nrt	over 5,001 nrt	- 0.10 per nrt
500 - 1,000 nrt	- 0.40 per nrt						
1,001 - 5,000 nrt	- 0.20 per nrt						
over 5,001 nrt	- 0.10 per nrt						
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, CCS, CRS, DNV, GL, HRS, KRS, LRS, NKK, PRS, RIN, RINA, RS, INSB (full recognition), IRS, TL, SVG.						
Crew Nationality	There are no nationality requirements for officers or crew up to 1st February 2002. After 2nd February 2002 all foreign countries' national certificates which appear on the final IMO "white list" will be recognised.						
Parallel Registration	Bareboat registration in or out of the registry is permitted for a minimum period of two years and a maximum period of four years.						
Flag of Convenience	Yes.						
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	COLREG 72, SOLAS 74/78, CLC 69, ILL 66, ITC 69, SPECIAL TRADE PASSENGER SHIPS AGREEMENT 73, STCW 78/95, MARITIME LIENS AND MORTGAGES 93, UNCLOS 82.						
Type of Mortgage	A Mortgage Deed containing the date and amount covered by the mortgage, the discharge amount and date of maturity signed by the mortgagor and the mortgagee and notarised by a notary public is required. An affidavit of good faith is also required. The Mortgage Deed has to be registered with the St Vincent and The Grenadines authorities. Care should also be taken to ascertain whether or not the Mortgage Deed also needs to be registered in the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate.						
Mortgage Registration Fee	US\$500.						
Useful Addresses	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Commissioner For Maritime Affairs Government of St Vincent & The Grenadines 8 Avenue de Frontenex CH-1207 Geneva, SWITZERLAND Tel: +41 22 707 6300 Fax: +41 22 707 6350 E-mail: geneva@svg.marad.com</p> <p>Registration of Yachts – USA Yacht Registry Services Inc. 1600 se 17th Street, Suite 401 US - Fort Lauderdale, fl 33316, USA Att: Ms Linda Parzognat Tel: +1 954 527 1555 Fax: +1 954 527 0345 E-mail: yachtoclady@cs.com</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Commissioner For Maritime Affairs Government of St Vincent & The Grenadines Monte Carlo E/F 74 Boulevard D'Italie MC 98000 MONACO Tel: +377 9310 4450 Fax: +377 9310 4499</p> <p>Marine Administration St Vincent & The Grenadines C/O Sea Enterprises S.A P.O. Box 21060 AE-Dubai, U.A.E Tel: +97 14 265 3221 Fax: +97 14 265 3158 E-mail: rawof@emirates.net.ae</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Commissioner For Maritime Affairs Government of St Vincent & The Grenadines 8 Avenue de Frontenex CH-1207 Geneva, SWITZERLAND Tel: +41 22 707 6300 Fax: +41 22 707 6350 E-mail: geneva@svg.marad.com</p> <p>Registration of Yachts – USA Yacht Registry Services Inc. 1600 se 17th Street, Suite 401 US - Fort Lauderdale, fl 33316, USA Att: Ms Linda Parzognat Tel: +1 954 527 1555 Fax: +1 954 527 0345 E-mail: yachtoclady@cs.com</p>	<p>Commissioner For Maritime Affairs Government of St Vincent & The Grenadines Monte Carlo E/F 74 Boulevard D'Italie MC 98000 MONACO Tel: +377 9310 4450 Fax: +377 9310 4499</p> <p>Marine Administration St Vincent & The Grenadines C/O Sea Enterprises S.A P.O. Box 21060 AE-Dubai, U.A.E Tel: +97 14 265 3221 Fax: +97 14 265 3158 E-mail: rawof@emirates.net.ae</p>				
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United Kingdom

No. of Ships	33,682	
Tonnage	6,726,543 grt	
Age Limit	No restriction.	
Size Restrictions	None.	
Ownership Requirements	The majority interest in the ship must be owned by a British citizen or subject (or a citizen of a European Economic Area country ⁴) who is established in the UK or by a company incorporated in the Isle of Man, UK, Channel Islands or any British Dependent Territory, the Republic of Ireland or in a European Economic Area country having its principal place of business in any such country.	
Documents Required	An application for registration must be made on the prescribed application form together with the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ declaration of eligibility; ◆ documents of title (being the builder's certificate, bill of sale or other evidence of title for the previous five years or since construction for pleasure vessels and one year for merchant vessels); ◆ certificate of survey; ◆ certificate of incorporation (for bodies corporate). 	
Registration Fees	There is an Initial Registration Fee of £115.	
Registration Period	Successive periods of 5 years.	
Approved Classification Societies	ABS, BV, DNV, GL, LRS, RYA.	
Crew Nationality	No nationality requirements for officers or crew. All officers must possess UK certificates or certificates recognised as being equivalent thereto.	
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration out of the registry is not permitted. Parallel registration into the registry is permitted.	
Flag of Convenience	No.	
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	All principal IMO conventions have been adopted.	
Type of Mortgage	An account current or principal sum and interest mortgage form issued by the British Ships Registrar is required and will need to be registered at the Shipping Registry. There will normally be a separate Deed of Covenants which need not be registered at the Registrar of Ships. The mortgage should also be registered at the relevant Companies Registry (within a specific time limit) where the owner is a body corporate.	
Mortgage Registration Fees	£92	
Useful Addresses	Registry of British Ships P.O. Box 165 Cardiff CF14 5FU Telephone nos. split by ship name: A to E 029 20768229 F to L 029 20768207 M to R 029 20768208 S to Z 029 20768228 Website: www.mcga.gov.uk	Small Ships Registry PO Box 165 Cardiff CF14 5FU A to L 029 20768205 M to Z 029 20768206

⁴ Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Eire, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Spain and Sweden.

Vanuatu

No. of Ships	496																
Tonnage	2,170,000 grt																
Age Limit	20 years*																
Size Restrictions	No restrictions (except on yachts which must be 50 nrt or more).																
Ownership Requirements	The Ship must be owned by a citizen or national of Vanuatu or a company incorporated in Vanuatu.																
Documents Required	<p>For provisional registration the following documents must be submitted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ an application for an official number and call sign; ◆ preliminary report of ship's officers; ◆ application for a ship's radio licence; ◆ power of attorney to register the ship in Vanuatu; ◆ consent to transfer to Vanuatu or a certificate of deletion from the ship's existing registry together with proof that the ship is free from encumbrances; ◆ proof of ownership (e.g. bill of sale or builder's certificate) and a declaration regarding ownership; ◆ copy of the relevant radio accounting authority contract; ◆ payment of registration fees; ◆ confirmation of class and statutory certificates to be updated. <p>For permanent registration (within 30 days)-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ certificate of deletion (if not provided above); ◆ proof that the necessary markings have been made on the ship; ◆ certificate of tonnage measurement of the ship must have been issued and any additional fees paid; ◆ report of ship's officers. 																
Registration Fees	<p>Initial Fee:- Rates are based on the number and size of vessels. Quotations will be supplied on request.</p> <p>Annual Tonnage Tax:- (First 12 months' payable in advance and not refundable)</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">0 - 15,000 nrt</td> <td style="width: 50%;">- US\$0.25 per nrt (minimum US\$125)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15,001 - 25,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.20 per nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25,001 - 35,000 nrt</td> <td>- US\$0.15 per nrt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>35,000 nrt or more</td> <td>- US\$0.10 per nrt</td> </tr> </table> <p>Additional Annual Fees include:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Marine Inspection (non-fishing vessels)</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">\$725</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marine Inspection (fishing vessels)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Marine Investigation</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$725</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IMO Participation (per nrt)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.04 per nrt</td> </tr> </table>	0 - 15,000 nrt	- US\$0.25 per nrt (minimum US\$125)	15,001 - 25,000 nrt	- US\$0.20 per nrt	25,001 - 35,000 nrt	- US\$0.15 per nrt	35,000 nrt or more	- US\$0.10 per nrt	Marine Inspection (non-fishing vessels)	\$725	Marine Inspection (fishing vessels)	\$350	Marine Investigation	\$725	IMO Participation (per nrt)	\$0.04 per nrt
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Marine Investigation	\$725																
IMO Participation (per nrt)	\$0.04 per nrt																
Approved Classification Societies	All members of the IACS.																
Crew Nationality	No nationality requirements for officers or crew. All officers must hold valid Vanuatu licences which will be issued on production of equivalent Home Country Licences and STCW certificates.																
Parallel Registration	Parallel registration in or out of the registry is permitted.																
Flag of Convenience	Open registry.																
Principal IMO Conventions Adopted	All principal IMO conventions have been adopted.																
Type of Mortgage	Any conventional form of mortgage can be used and must be registered with the Vanuatu authorities. The mortgage must be of the whole ship, have preferred status, include the name of the ship, the name of the parties, the interest to be charged and the amount and date of maturity of the mortgage.																
Mortgage Registration Fees	US\$425																
Useful Addresses	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Vanuatu Maritime Services 22nd Floor, 90 Washington Street New York NY10006, USA Tel: +1 212 425 9600 Fax: +1 212 425 9652 E-mail: VMSNYC@attglobal.net Website: www.vanuatuships.com </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> Mr Nigel Ready Cheeswrights 10 Philpot Lane London EC3M 8AA Tel: 020 7623 9477/80; 7623 1357/59 Fax: 020 7623 5428 </td> </tr> </table>	Vanuatu Maritime Services 22nd Floor, 90 Washington Street New York NY10006, USA Tel: +1 212 425 9600 Fax: +1 212 425 9652 E-mail: VMSNYC@attglobal.net Website: www.vanuatuships.com	Mr Nigel Ready Cheeswrights 10 Philpot Lane London EC3M 8AA Tel: 020 7623 9477/80; 7623 1357/59 Fax: 020 7623 5428														
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* A waiver of this restriction may be available but will require a general condition survey to be conducted by a Vanuatu approved marine surveyor.

Glossary of Conventions

CLC (1969) Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage. Amended by protocols of 1976, 1984 and 1992 (not yet in force).

COLREG (1972) Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (previously dealt with as part of SOLAS). This convention has a tacit acceptance procedure with the next series of amendments due to come into force in November 1995.

FUND (1971) Convention on the establishment of an international fund for compensation for oil pollution damage supplemented by protocol of 1976 and protocols of 1984 and 1992. This convention was intended to run in parallel with the cargo owners' CRISTAL scheme (Contract Regarding an Interim Supplement to Tanker Liability for Oil Pollution).

INMARSAT (1976) Convention and operating agreement relating to the International Maritime Satellite System. The new global satellite system first went into operation in 1982 and gives ships direct access to high quality telephone, telex, facsimile and data calls to and from shore as well as priority access to distress, urgency and safety communications. Controlled by those who have the largest investment share in the system.

MARPOL (73/78) Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships. Originally drafted in 1973 and modified by a protocol in 1978 and various amendments thereafter. The convention deals with all forms of pollution (not just oil) and requires ships to have an initial survey before being put into service or before an International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate is issued (with periodical surveys thereafter). Acceptance of some of the provisions of the convention is optional.

SOLAS (1974) Convention intended to protect the Safety of Life at Sea in both passenger and cargo vessels. The detailed regulations cover various areas such as the provision of lifeboats, stability standards, the maintenance of essential services and methods of sub-division by means of fire resistant bulkheads. Updated by a protocol in 1978 (which also made several modifications to MARPOL). SOLAS also incorporates a tacit acceptance procedure to allow it to keep pace with technical developments and the most recent amendments came into force in 1994.

STCW (1978) Convention on Standards for Training, Certification and Watch-Keeping for Seafarers.

Classification Societies

ABS	American Bureau of Shipping
BV	Bureau Veritas
CBS	Cyprus Bureau of Shipping
CRS	Croatian Register of Shipping
DNV	Det Norske Veritas
GL	Germanischer Lloyd
HINSIB	Honduras/Horizon International Naval Surveying and Inspection Bureau
HRS	Hellenic Register of Shipping
IACS	International Association of Classification Societies
INSB	International Naval Surveys Bureau
KRS	Korean Register of Shipping
LRS	Lloyd's Register of Shipping
NKK	Nippon Kaiji Kyokai
PRS	Polski Rejestr Statkow
RINA	Registro Italiano Navale
RINAVE	Registro Internacional Naval (Portugal)
RNR	Rumanian Classification Society
RRS	Russian Register of Shipping
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
TL	Turkish Lloyd
YRB	Yugoslavenski Register Brodora
ZC	Register of Shipping of the People's Republic of China

About Hill Dickinson

Hill Dickinson LLP offers a comprehensive range of legal services from offices in Liverpool, Manchester, London, Chester and Greece. The firm has 143 partners and a complement of more than 900 staff.

Hill Dickinson is a major force in insurance and is well respected in the company and commercial arena. The firm's marine expertise is internationally renowned and is one of the largest marine practices in the UK following a merger with Hill Taylor Dickinson on 1 November 2006. The firm has a highly reputable commercial litigation practice and is widely regarded as a leader in the fields of employment, intellectual property, NHS clinical/health related litigation and private client.

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