

FACILITATION OF NON-SOLAS VESSELS ON INTERNATIONAL VOYAGE TO AND FROM SOUTH AFRICAN WATERS AND PORTS – YACHTS

TO ALL PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, PORTS, AUTHORITIES, MARINAS, YACHT OWNERS, SKIPPERS, SEAFARERS, AGENTS AND OTHER INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES

ISSUE DATE	EXPIRY DATE	REFERENCE
27 May 2022	26 May 2027 or unless withdrawn	SM6/5/2/1/MN

Marine Notice's affected

Cancelled or superseded:	50 of 2020	Read in conjunction with:	Not applicable
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SUMMARY

This Marine Notice seeks to notify the industry of Pre-Arrival Notification (PAN) requirements for NON-SOLAS vessels engaged on international voyages. This process is only applicable to yachts.

BACKGROUND

NON-SOLAS vessels are those which are not subject to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and do not routinely engage in commercial activities such as carrying cargo or passengers for hire. This class of vessels might also encompass vessels being used as residences provided the vessel maintains a means of propulsion. Such includes; Vessels below 500gt not covered by SOLAS Convention and Pleasure craft, recreational vessels or leisure craft amongst others.

As a contracting government to International Maritime Organization, South Africa has an obligation to enhance security and ensure safety of all ships within territorial waters and ports. Therefore, NON-SOLAS vessels engaged on international voyages (*South African or foreign flagged*) are required to declare arrival and departure information to obtain port clearance. The declaration will enable relevant authorities to effectively render required services in a swift and coordinated manner.

SOUTH AFRICAN YACHTS PROCEEDING ON AN INTERNATIONAL VOYAGE

Any South African yacht planning to proceed on an international voyage must be registered as a South African Registered vessel, hold a valid Ship Registration Certificate, and must be appropriately marked as required by the Ship Registration Act. South African Yacht owners and skippers are reminded to renew any Ship Registration Certificate on expiry, while on an international voyage. Should the yacht ownership be changed or sold, the yacht owner is obliged to inform the South African Safety Authority prior the change.

If a registration certificate—

- (a) is mislaid, lost or destroyed; or
- (b) is lodged with the Registrar,

the Registrar must, on application in the prescribed manner, issue a new certificate in substitution for that certificate.

Unregistered South African vessels are not allowed to leave the Republic and they are not to leave a foreign port without a valid Registration Certificate. Any owner of that yacht who orders or permits such departure, are each guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years.

A customs officer may not grant a clearance in respect of an unregistered South African yacht that is about to depart from a South African port to a place outside the Republic.

UPDATE

The Department of Transport is continuously engaging all relevant role players to streamline and standardize processes and procedures for entry and departure. A modified efficient solution will be implemented upon completion of the process.

REQUIRED INFORMATION

To be sent to Ocean Sailing Association of Southern Africa (OSASA)

Name of Yacht	Gross Tonnage	Last Port of Call and Departure Date	1 st SA port of Call	2 nd SA port of Call	Estimated Date of Arrival	Total Number of persons on board and nationalities

PROCESS TO BE FOLLOWED

1. All requests must be submitted to Ocean Sailing Association of Southern Africa (OSASA)
2. OSASA will consolidate the requests and submit a consolidated list to Department of Transport
3. Department of Transport will facilitate clearance to South African waters and ports
4. Department of Transport will send out a list of all cleared yachts to relevant authorities

TRAVEL ADVISORY

1. All yachts must utilize the below ports only for international arrival and departure
 - a. Port of Richards Bay
 - b. Port of Durban
 - c. Port of East London
 - d. Port of Ngqura
 - e. Port of Port Elizabeth/Gqeberha
 - f. Port of Cape Town
2. All international travellers arriving at South African Ports of Entry must comply with National Health Act No.61 of 2003 Regulations relating to the surveillance and the control of notifiable medical conditions: Amendment – 4th May 2022. Most significantly regulation 16(C). Enquiries
3. All international travellers must comply with Immigration Act No. 13 of 2011 as well as subsequent Regulations for visa requirements

ENQUIRIES

Department of Transport	Department of Health	Department of Home Affairs	South African Maritime Safety Authority	Ocean Sailing Association of Southern Africa
Maritime Security Coordination Centre (MSCC)	Port Health	Immigration Services	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre	Sailors Association
Ms. Mashudu Nephumbada Nephumbadam@dot.gov.za	Ms. Antoinette Hargreaves Antoinette.Hargreaves@health.gov.za	Mr. Stephen Van Neel Stephen.Vanneel@dha.gov.za	mrcc.ct@samsa.org.za	Ms. Jennifer Crickmore-Thompson Or Mr. John Franklin info@osaosa.org.za

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