

**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY  
(AUTORIDAD MARÍTIMA DE PANAMÁ)  
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF MERCHANT MARINE  
(DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE MARINA MERCANTE)  
DEPARTMENT OF CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE  
(DEPARTAMENTO DE CONTROL Y CUMPLIMIENTO)**

F-265  
(DCCM)  
V.00



**MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-327**

**To:** Master, Ship-owners, Operators, Company Security Officers, Ship Security Officers and Recognized Security Organizations (RSO's) of Panamanian Flagged Vessel.

**Subject:** Security Measures sailing in the Gulf of Guinea (GoG)

**Reference:** 1982 UNCLOS  
SOLAS Chapter XI-2 Regulations 3.1 and 6.6 MMC 228  
MMC-238  
MMC-245

1. The Panama Maritime Authority encourages all Panamanian flagged vessels transiting the Gulf of Guinea, to increase the security measures on board and to comply with any security regulations recommended, in territorial waters, by the Coastal and Port Authorities; taking into consideration the recent piracy attacks occurred in the region (hijacking, kidnapping and armed robbery) and comply with the [Best Management Practices \(BMP\) West Africa including Gulf of Guinea](#).
2. The Panama Maritime Authority further encourages the implementation of the necessary security measures established by this Administration through anti-piracy Merchant Marine Circulars, in particular MMC-238.
3. The use of Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) should not be considered as an alternative to the Best Management Practices (BMP) or other protective measures. The use of PMSC is an exclusive decision of the Ship-owner or Operator, and is only recommended outside the territorial waters of the coastal countries of the Gulf of Guinea. In cases where the use of PMSC is permitted within the territorial waters of a country, the shipowner or ship operator must follow the national regulations applicable by the country in this regard.
4. This Administration recognizes that an essential part of preventing, deterring and suppressing attacks is prompt reporting to the appropriate authorities and organizations, both during and post-incident.

**For further assistance and/or inquiries please note the following contact points:**

- A. Maritime Ships Security Department (weekdays from 08:30 to 16:30 hrs local time)**  
Panama City, Republic of Panama  
Phone: +507-501-5037 / 5085 / 5020  
E-mail address: [asp@amp.gob.pa](mailto:asp@amp.gob.pa)

**B. SEGUMAR Panama (Evenings, Weekends and Holidays)**

Panama City, Republic of Panama  
Phone: +507-501-5350/ 48 or +507-501-5032  
E-mail address: [authorizations@segumar.com](mailto:authorizations@segumar.com)

**C. Absolute Maritime Tracking Services, Inc. (a Pole Star company)**

Phone: +507-301-5748  
Fax: +507-301-5749  
E-mail address:  
[activations@absolutemaritime.com](mailto:activations@absolutemaritime.com) Website:  
<http://www.polestarglobal.com>

**D. IMB (International Maritime Bureau) Piracy Reporting Centre**

Phone: +60-3-2031-0014 (manned 24/7  
everyday) Fax: +60-3-2078-5769  
E-mail addresses: [piracy@icc-ccs.org](mailto:piracy@icc-ccs.org) and [IMBKL@icc-ccs.org](mailto:IMBKL@icc-ccs.org)  
Website: <https://icc-ccs.org/piracy-reporting-centre>

**E. Marine Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea (MDAT-GoG)**

Brest, France and Portsmouth, England.  
Phone: +33 (0) 2 98 22 88 88  
E-mail addresses: [watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org](mailto:watchkeepers@mdat-gog.org)  
Website: N/A

*April, 2020 – Inclusion of BMP West Africa.*

*January, 2018 - Update of mail.*

*January, 2017 – Inclusion of information of contact of MDAT-GoG.*

*March, 2016 - Changes all throughout the text, new point C and D.*

*March, 2016.*

*Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any other request should be directed to:*  
**Maritime Ships Security Department**  
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**Phone: (507) 501-5037 / (507) 501-5020**

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