

*Government Notice No. 142 of 2017***THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT****Regulations made by the Minister under section 228
of the Merchant Shipping Act**

1. These regulations may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Registration of Submersible Craft) Regulations 2017.
2. In these regulations –
 - “Act” means the Merchant Shipping Act;
 - “diving bell” means a manned compressed chamber designed to operate or remain under water for the purpose of search purposes;
 - “owner” means a person who owns a submersible craft in the same manner as a person who owns a Mauritius ship under section 16 of the Act;
 - “registered craft” means a submersible craft registered pursuant to regulation 4(4);
 - “submersible craft” –
 - (a) means a mobile, tethered, towed or bottom contact propelled apparatus, or self-propelled apparatus which is designed to operate or remain under water; (b) does not include a diving bell.
3. These regulations shall apply to any submersible craft which is –
 - (a) operated in the territorial sea of Mauritius;
 - (b) launched, recovered, operated or supported from a Mauritius ship wherever it may be; and

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- (c) used in the course of, or in connection with, any trade or business or is used by any person for hire or reward.
4. (1) No person shall operate or cause a submersible craft to be operated unless the craft is registered with the Registrar.
- (2) Any person who becomes the owner of a submersible craft shall, within 30 days of becoming the owner, apply to the Registrar to register the craft.
- (3) An application under paragraph (2) shall be made in such form as the Registrar may determine and shall be accompanied by 2 duly filled in copies of the form set out in the Schedule.
- (4) On receipt of an application made under paragraph (2), the Registrar may, on being satisfied that the submersible craft satisfies the criteria for registration, register the craft.
- (5) Where the Registrar registers a submersible craft pursuant to paragraph (4), he shall –
- (a) issue, on such terms and conditions as he may determine, a certificate of registration to its owner; and
- (b) in accordance with section 12 of the Act, cause the following particulars of the craft to be included in the Sixth Part of the Register –
- (i) the number of the certificate of registration; (ii) the registration number of the craft; and
- (iii) the name of the owner and operator of the craft.

5. The owner of a registered craft shall not operate or cause the craft to be operated unless the registration number of the craft is at all times –
 - (a) displayed on a metal plate permanently fixed to the internal structure of the main pressure hull of the craft; and
 - (b) conspicuously marked on the external structure of the craft.

 6. The owner of a registered craft shall –
 - (a) in case there is any change in the particulars of the craft;
 - (b) in the light of the destruction of the craft; or
 - (c) in case he wishes to withdraw the craft from use, forthwith inform the Registrar in writing of that fact.

 7. The Registrar may, where he is satisfied that –
 - (a) a registered craft no more complies with the Act or these regulations; or
 - (b) there has been a change in the ownership of the craft which has not been notified to him,cancel the registration of the craft.

 8. Any person who contravenes these regulations shall commit an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 50,000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years.

 9. These regulations shall come into operation on 1 July 2017.
Made by the Minister on 19 June 2017.
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SCHEDULE

[Regulation 4(3)]

PARTICULARS OF SUBMERSIBLE CRAFT

Part A – General description of submersible craft (standard configuration)

Name (if applicable)

Particulars of registration as a ship (if applicable)

Builder

Designer

Owner

Operator

Date of build or launch

Overall dimensions

Collapse depth estimation

Drawing showing layout, principal parts and construction materials of the craft with general description

Part B – Classification

Name of Classification Society under whose supervision the craft was built, the class awarded and date

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Name of Classification Society with which currently classed (if different from above)

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