



Merchant Marine **Notice**

Panama Maritime Authority
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Control and Compliance Department

F-34
(DCCM)
V.04

CHINA MSA LAUNCHED A SPECIAL CAMPAIGN (CONCENTRATED INSPECTION CAMPAIGN (CIC) AGAINST ILLEGAL ENTRY INTO ENCLOSED SPACES ONBOARD SHIPS - FROM 15 JANUARY 2025 TO 14 OCTOBER 2025.

No: **MMN-01/2025**

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1. The purpose of this Merchant Marine Notice is to inform Masters, Ship Owners/Operators, Legal Representatives of Panamanian-flagged vessels, the Panamanian Merchant Marine Fleet, and Recognized Organizations (ROs) regarding the China Maritime Safety Administration (MSA) Concentrated Inspection Campaign (CIC) targeting illegal entry into enclosed spaces onboard vessels. The campaign will run from January 15, 2025, to October 14, 2025.
 2. The number of accidents resulting from illegal entry into enclosed spaces has been steadily increasing. In response, the China MSA has initiated a special campaign to regulate the practices of personnel entering enclosed spaces on ships, with the goal of preventing further incidents and enhancing safety standards.
 3. The China MSA CIC inspections will be conducted in conjunction with regular Port State Control (PSC) inspections. Ship owners, operators, and masters are advised to ensure compliance with the following key areas, which align with SOLAS Chapter III, Regulation 19.3.6, SOLAS Chapter XI-1, Regulation 7, and ISM Code, Part A, Section 7:
 - Crew Awareness: Ensure the crew is fully aware of the risks associated with enclosed space entry.
 - Identification and Marking: Ensure that enclosed spaces are clearly identified and properly marked onboard.



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- Controlled Entry: Implement effective control measures for safe entry to enclosed spaces, including the use of entry permits.
 - Atmospheric Testing: Verify that onboard atmospheric testing devices are properly calibrated and within their validity period.
 - Rescue Drills: Ensure that regular enclosed space rescue drills are conducted in accordance with safety requirements.
4. The Administration urges ship owners, operators, and masters to carefully review the content of this Marine Notice. Additionally, Flag State Inspectors and Recognized Organizations are advised to prioritize these matters during inspections and surveys conducted within the specified campaign period.

February, 2025 – New.

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Merchant Marine Notice or any other request should be forward to:

Navigation and Maritime Safety Department
General Directorate of Merchant Marine
Panama Maritime Authority

Phone: (507) 501-5092

E-mail: pssc@amp.gob.pa

Website: <https://panamashipregistry.com/marine-category/marine-notices/>