	<p style="text-align: center;">GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Circular 02 001-08</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IMO UNIQUE COMPANY AND REGISTERED OWNER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SCHEME</p>	Document	Circ. 02 001-08
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Circular Letter to:

All Registered Owners having ships under the Flag of Antigua and Barbuda, W.I.;
All Companies responsible for the management of ships registered with the Flag of Antigua and Barbuda;
All ships registered under the Flag of Antigua and Barbuda, W.I.

1. General

The IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme, the proposed new SOLAS Regulation XI-1/3-1 and amendments to SOLAS Regulation XI-1/5 were adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) at its eightieth session. It will be deemed to have been accepted on 1 July 2008 and shall enter into force on 1 January 2009.

This circular should be read in conjunction with the IMO Circular letter No. 2554/Rev.1 and is aimed at providing all the above mentioned parties with the necessary information and direction on participating in this scheme and obtaining the relevant numbers as required.


2. Application

An IMO unique company and registered owner identification number is a permanent number required to be assigned to all Companies¹ and Registered Owners² managing ships of 100 gross tonnage and upwards involved in international voyages.

The Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) considers all vessels on a voyage from a country to which the present Convention applies to a port outside such country, or conversely, to be engaged in international voyages.

¹ Company in this context has the same meaning as in SOLAS regulation IX/1.

² Registered Owner is the owner specified on a ship's certificate of registry issued by the Administration.

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3. Assignment of Numbers

The IMO unique company and registered owner identification number is a seven digit number beginning with IMO and followed by “Company” or “Registered Owner” and then the number.

This number can be obtained without charge by Companies and Registered Owners through website application directly to Lloyd’s Register-Fairplay (LRF) on www.imonumbers.lrfairplay.com.

ADOMS requires that all Companies and Registered Owners having vessels registered with the Flag of Antigua and Barbuda and all new Companies and Registered Owners intending to register a vessel with the Flag contact LRF to have numbers assigned and submit the applicable ADOMS office with such number.


LRF will accept both paper and electronic requests from Recognized Organizations (ROs) that undertake Safety Management Certificates (SMC) and Documents of Compliance (DOC) audits, and from Recognized Security Organizations (RSOs) that undertake International Ship Security Certificates (ISSC) audits for companies who have not previously been assigned a number.

LRF will process requests via their website only.

The contact details are as follows:

Lloyd’s Register – Fairplay (LRF)
Lombard House
3 Princess Way, Redhill
Surrey RH1 1UP
United Kingdom
Email: owners-data-feedback@lrfairplay.com
Website: www.imonumbers.lrfairplay.com

ADOMS may contact LRF to confirm the numbers provided by Companies and Registered Owners. Once the number is obtained, it becomes permanent and remains unchanged for the Company or the Registered Owner. If there is a merger, LRF will freeze the number of the smaller entity and assign the new

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company the number originally belonging to the larger company. The number of the smaller company will not be re-used.

4. Implementation

The Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping (ADOMS) shall implement the IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number Scheme as of 1 January 2009.

All Continuous Synopsis Records (CSR), ISM Certificates and ISPS Certificates, issued before 01 January 2009, will remain valid until their renewal on or after 01 January 2009.

Companies and Registered Owners are requested to apply before 01 January 2009 for the assignment of the IMO Unique Company and Registered Owner Identification Number to be inserted in the new or renewed CSR, ISM and ISPS Certificates on or after 01 January 2009.