



MINISTRY OF OCEAN ECONOMY, MARINE RESOURCES, FISHERIES,
SHIPPING AND OUTER ISLANDS

NOTICE

Registration of Service Providers/ Shippers for Weight Verification of Containers under the SOLAS Convention

Reference No: MS/C/CONV/SOLAS/2

13 June 2016



Republic of Mauritius

**Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources,
Fisheries, Shipping and Outer Islands**

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Verification of Containers under the SOLAS Convention**

A. INTRODUCTION

Mauritius is a party to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) which has been amended in December 2014 to require, as a condition for loading a packed container onto a ship for export, that the container has a **Verified Gross Mass**.

With a view of implementing the amendments to Regulation 2, Part A, Chapter V1 of the SOLAS Convention, the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping and Outer Islands is compiling a list of service providers/ Shippers to be registered as potential service providers/ Shippers for Weight Verification of Containers.

B. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this exercise is to ensure safety of the ship, safety of workers both on board ships and ashore, the safety of cargo and overall safety at sea, in line with the new amendments to the SOLAS Convention.

C. METHODOLOGY

There are two permissible methods for weighing under the SOLAS Convention:

- I. Method 1- Weighing Method:** This requires shippers to weigh the packed container using a weighing instrument which is duly assized in accordance with the Legal Metrology Act.

- II. Method 2 - Calculation Method:** This requires the weighing of all the cargo, including the weight of the pallets, dunnage, packaging and other securing materials to be packed in the container and adding those weights obtained using a weighing equipment duly calibrated or assized to the containers' tare weight as indicated on the door end of the container to arrive at a verified gross container weight.

For Method 1:

From operators of weighing instruments (weighbridges) duly assized in accordance with the Legal Metrology Act.

For Method 2:

From operators certified under a quality management system standards namely, ISO 9001, ISO 28000 or such updated standards that are applicable from time to time, using calibrated or assized weighing instruments to determine the weight of cargo, pallets, dunnage, packaging and other securing materials to be packed in the container.

D. Registration of Service Providers/ Shippers

The purpose of this exercise is to compile a list of registered Service Providers/ Shippers who will provide the above services in compliance with the SOLAS Convention.

Documents/information to be submitted in the application form for provision of services is as detailed hereunder:

I. Method 1- Weighing Method

- a. Full Company name and address;
- b. Name of responsible person/s and contact details;
- c. Address(es) and contact details where weight verification will be undertaken;
- d. Specifying the method(s) to be used for weight verification (i.e. with or without trailer, truck etc.); and
- e. Copy of valid Certificate of assized weighbridge issued by the Legal Metrology Services.

II Method 2- Calculation Method

- a. Full Company name and address;
- b. Name of responsible person/s and contact details;
- c. Address(es) where container would be packed;
- d. Copy of Quality Management System certificate;
- e. Copy of calibration/assized certificate of weighing instrument/s;
- f. Copy of weighing procedures under Quality Management System; and
- g. **Any other relevant supporting documents.**

E. Submission of Application Form

All queries should be addressed to The Permanent Secretary at the following address:

Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources,

Fisheries, Shipping and Outer Islands

4th Floor, LIC Building

John Kennedy Street

Port Louis

Republic of Mauritius

Tel: +230 - 211 2455

Fax: +230 – 2113407

The duly completed and signed application form in a sealed envelope, clearly marked “Ref No: **MS/C/CONV/SOLAS/2**” addressed to the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping and Outer Islands should be sent to Level 4, LIC Building, John Kennedy Street, Port Louis. Submissions of application forms should be sent to the above address by post or hand.

Duly filled and signed application forms may also be forwarded by e-mail to this Ministry on **shippingdivision@govmu.org**