

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 135

**TO : ALL OWNERS/OPERATORS PASSENGER / PASSENGER
CARGO VESSEL OPERATING IN COSTAL AND/OR
RIVERINE AREAS**

**SUBJECT : RULES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VOICE TAPE ON
THE SAFETY FEATURES OF A VESSEL**

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order 125, as amended and the Public Service Act, as amended, the following rules are hereby prescribed to implement the playing of voice tape pertaining to vessel safety, health and sanitation, on board passenger and passenger cargo vessel of 20 to less than 150 Gross Tons (GT) operating in coastal and/or riverine areas:

I. OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure the preparedness and alertness of passengers in case of maritime emergencies and accidents; and,
2. To maintain and promote health and sanitation onboard.

II. COVERAGE

All passenger and passenger-cargo vessels of 20 to less than 150 GT operating within riverine and coastal areas shall be covered under this Circular.

III. CONTENTS OF THE VOICE TAPE

The voice tape shall be primarily in local dialect or Filipino, as applicable, with English version and shall contain the following :

1. General Information:
 - 1.1. Purpose of the voice tape
 - 1.2. The number of crew onboard and name of the Captain
 - 1.3. Number of passengers allowed and covered with insurance
 - 1.4. Destination and Travel time
2. Safety Features and Health/Sanitation
 - 2.1. Number and location of life jackets
 - 2.2. Number, location and capacity of liferafts, when applicable
 - 2.3. Location of emergency exits, when applicable
 - 2.4. Do's and don'ts during emergency situations and Other precautionary measures
 - 2.5. Demonstration on how to use the life jackets, rafts and fire extinguishers

- 2.6. Location of comfort rooms, if applicable
- 2.7. Garbage/waste disposal, if applicable
- 2.8. Location of smoking areas, if allowed

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

1. The voice tape shall be submitted to MARINA for review.
2. The voice tape must be played on board after each departure.
3. At least one (1) crewmember for every one hundred (100) passengers, or a fraction thereof, must be designated to demonstrate how to use the life jacket while the tape is being played.
4. All existing vessels covered by these rules shall be given one (1) month from the effectivity of this Circular to comply.

V. PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS

Failure to comply with this Circular shall be subject to the following penalties and sanctions after due notice and hearing:

First Offense	-	Fine of Five Thousand (P5,000) Pesos per vessel and warning
Second Offense	-	Fine of Ten Thousand (P10,000) Pesos per vessel and/or suspension of existing authority to operate (CPC/PA/SP)
Third Offense	-	Fine of Twenty Five Thousand (P25,000) Pesos per vessel and/or revocation/cancellation of existing authority to operate (CPC/PA/SP)

VI. REPEALING CLAUSE

Any provision of existing MARINA circulars and rules and regulations inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed/amended accordingly.

VII. EFFECTIVITY

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) day after its publication once in a newspaper of general circulation.

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE MARINA BOARD:

AGUSTIN R. BENGZON
Administrator

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Memorandum Circular No. 135 has been approved in the 143rd Regular Meeting of the Maritime Industry Board of Directors held on 17 September 1998.

ATTY. GLORIA J. VICTORIA –BANAS

Acting Corporate Board Secretary

Date of Publication :October 01, 1998, Malaya Newspaper

Date of Submission to the UP Law Center: October 5, 1998

MABUHAY ! Welcome aboard MV MARINA 2000 bound for MANILA – CEBU – ZAMBOANGA and vice versa.

In command of this ship is _____ ably assisted in the controls by _____.

This ship has a total complement of 30 OFFICERS & CREW. Their names and positions are listed in the station bill for your information.

We shall be cruising at the speed of 24 knots. For details on the sailing schedule, ports of call as well as passage and freight rates, may we refer you to the MARINA authority posted conspicuously onboard.

This ship has been authorized to carry a total of 350 passengers all insured in accordance with MARINA Memorandum Circular No.48, as amended. Please note that only passengers who have been validly issued a ticket and included in the passenger manifest shall be insured for this voyage.

Safety features of this ship include a GYRO COMPASS, a TWO- WAY VHF RADIO TRANSCEIVER, other standard aids to navigation.

As an added safety feature, this is equipped with 350 life preservers, 2 life boats with capacity of 25 persons and 10 life rafts with a capacity of 15 persons or a combined carrying capacity of 200 passengers.

For your comfort and convenience, there are 6 lavatories found in the upper and lower deck of this ship and a galley in the upper deck. There is a garbage can near you for waste and other litters. May we, however, appeal for your cooperation in maintaining the cleanliness of our facilities as well as our surroundings.

At this point, we shall demonstrate to you how to use the life preservers.

Your life preservers can be found in sealed compartment at the upper and lower deck properly marked.

To wear the vest, slip vest over your body, pull lower tape twice around your waist and secure tightly by a knot. Then secure comfortably upper tape around your neck. Wait for further instructions from your ship stewards. They are trained to handle any emergency situations that may arise. Remember..... NOT TO PANIC. Please study carefully safety instructions found in the station bill.

May we remind you that smoking in enclosed spaces and designated non-smoking area are strictly prohibited. Personal luggages should be stowed under your seats and/or cotbeds and should not block passageway, aisles and exits.

At any time during this trip, please don't hesitate to call on any of our crew for assistance. And to enable us to serve you even better, may we solicit your comments and suggestion on how to improve our onboard services. You may drop them at the suggestion box provided for the said purpose.

Finally, in the compliance with BP 344 otherwise known as the Accessibility Law and RA 7432, please vacate/reserve seats or cots intended for disabled persons and our senior citizens.

In behalf of the management and staff of the Maritime Industry Authority, the officers and crew of MV MARINA 2000, we thank you for making us a part of your day.

MARAMING SALAMAT PO !