



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

03 February 2025

MARINA ADVISORY No. 2025-01
Series of 2025

TO : ALL DOMESTIC SHIPPING COMPANIES,
SHIPOWNERS, SHIP OPERATORS, CHARTERERS,
CARGO OWNERS, SHIPPERS AND ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT : SUSPENSION OF ACQUISITION OF LCT-TYPE RORO
CARGO SHIP AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR
EXISTING LCT-TYPE RORO CARGO SHIP OPERATING
IN THE DOMESTIC TRADE

Pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 474, Republic Act No. 9295 and its IRR, and Memorandum Circular No. 104 as amended by Memorandum Circular No. DS-2023-01, and in view of the results of ship safety assessment, **NOTICE** is hereby given to all concerned on the following guidelines:

1. New Ship¹ Acquisition – LCT Type RORO Cargo²

Acquisition of new LCT-type cargo ship intended to carry roro vehicles with passengers whether paying or non – paying is hereby suspended effective 15 February 2025. However, those acquisition of LCT-type RoRo cargo ship with shipbuilding contracts or sale agreement signed and concluded before 15 February 2025 may still be allowed.

2. Existing Ships³ – LCT Type, RORO Cargo

2.1 Existing ship, as herein described, may be allowed to maintain its operation to carry roro cargo with passengers whether paying or non-paying provided the following standards, rules and regulations are strictly complied with:

- a. Existing ship must be classed and class-maintained by MARINA accredited classification society (MACS) as passenger ship;
- b. There must be NO increase or additional capacity on the current authorized number of passengers after the effectivity of this Advisory;

¹ The term "new ship" refers to the ship other than existing vessel acquired through importation, bareboat charter, or local construction.

² The term "LCT-type RoRo" refers to LCT type cargo ship intended to carry roro vehicles with passengers whether paying or non-paying.

³ The term "existing ship" refers to the LCT-type Roro cargo ship registered with MARINA and granted Certificate of Public Convenience before the effectivity of this Advisory.

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- c. All officers and crew will comply with the following training requirements:
- Basic Training (BT)
 - Crowd and Crisis Management (CCM)
 - Ship Security Awareness Training (SSAT)
 - Seafarer Designated Security Duties (SDSD)
 - Cargo Handling and Stowage for Chief Mate
 - Safe Navigation (SAFENAV) and Collision Regulation for Deck Officers.
- 2.2 Provided further, that the following safety policies, standards, and requirements for passenger ship shall be strictly adhered throughout its operations:
- i. MARINA Circular 2015-10, Series of 2015: Revised Rules and Regulations to Implement the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing in the Domestic Shipping;
 - ii. MARINA Circular No. 2016-01, Series of 2016: Revised Rules on the Mandatory Passenger Insurance Coverage; Emergency Assistance to Survivors of Maritime Accidents/Incidents; and other relevant concerns;
 - iii. Memorandum Circular No. 136: Amendment of MC No. 72 on the Implementation of 10-Minute Film on the Safety Features of a Vessel (safety film providing audio and video information on safety measures and safety familiarization for passengers onboard); and, MARINA Advisory No. 2023-11: Guidelines on the Implementation for the Airing of the Four (4)-Minute Video on Marine Plastic Litter for Passenger Vessels;
 - iv. Memorandum Circular No. 2018-18, Series of 2018: Revised Rules and Regulations on the Implementation of the Mandatory Minimum Service Standards and Other Services Onboard Ships Carrying Passengers in the Inter-Island Shipping Trade (General Arrangement of Passenger Accommodation Plans showing the accommodation of passengers duly approved by the MACS and validated by the MARINA in accordance with the minimum service standards and for other services);
 - v. MARINA Circular No. 2015-02, Series of 2015: Rules to Govern the Installation of Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) of

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- Passenger Ships 300 GT and above and Cargo Ships 500 GT and Above (similar in application to a passenger ship);
- vi. MARINA Circular No. 2016-04, Series of 2016: Revised Rules and Regulations on the Requirements of Life Saving Appliances Under Chapter X of the Philippine Merchant Marine Rules and Regulations (PMMRR) 1997 specifically under the requirements for passenger ships;
 - vii. Memorandum Circular No. MS-2020-03, Series of 2020: Revised Rules and Regulations on Safe Manning for Ships Operating in Philippine Waters for passenger ships category;
 - viii. MARINA Circular No. 2015-11, Series of 2015: Revised Rules and Regulations to Implement a Safety Management System for Domestic Shipping, on the requirement for ship's Safety Management System, including the following:
 - Emergency procedures such as collision, grounding, fire, flooding, evacuation, medical emergency scenarios; and
 - Regular exercise and drills addressing crowd control management, panic prevention, and mass evacuation strategies;
 - ix. Memorandum Circular No. SR-2020-02, Series of 2020: Rules and Regulations on the Construction of Tank and Installation of Equipment to Collect, Store and Treat Sewage from Ships in Compliance with ANNEX IV of MARPOL 73/78, as amended;
 - x. Compliance with the intact and damage stability requirements, provided under SOLAS Chapter II-1 and MARINA Circular No. SR-2021-04 and 2015-08: Rules and Regulations and Intact Stability and Damage Stability Requirements for Philippine-Registered Domestic Ships (applied for passenger ship), its subsequent amendments and issued relevant Advisories.

Ships non-compliant of the above-mentioned requirements and standards shall be authorized to operate solely as cargo vessel for the carriage of bulk cargo or container only with valid Cargo Ship Safety Certificate (CSSC).

The preceding provision on safety policies, standards, and requirements shall be complied during the renewal/endorsement of the safety certificate not later than eighteen (18) months upon the effectivity of the Advisory.

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Enforcement Units of MARINA, the Philippine Coast Guard and other relevant agencies are hereby enjoined to enforce this Advisory.

All other provisions of Memorandum Circular Nos. 104 and DS-2023-01 shall remain in full force and effect.

For strict compliance.


SONIA B. MALALUAN
Administrator

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