



## Marine Notice No. 76 of 2023

This Marine Notice supersedes Marine Notice No.51 of 2014

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,  
Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

### European Union (Registration of Persons Sailing on board Passenger Ships) Regulations 2019 – Requirements following the end of the “Transitional Period” from 20 December 2023

#### **Background:**

The European Union (Registration of Persons Sailing on board Passenger Ships) Regulations 2019 ([S.I. No. 677 of 2019](#)), transposing Council Directive 98/41/EC, as amended by Directive 2002/84/EC, entered into force on **19 December 2019** and requires reporting of persons on board passenger ships via SafeSeasIreland or via a vessel's Automatic Information System (AIS) along with the information set out under point 2 below. A transitional period up to **19 December 2023** was provided for in the Directive and Regulations which allowed the reporting of persons on board to continue via the operating company's passenger registrar located ashore. As the transitional period will end shortly the requirements for reporting of persons on board\* passenger ships from **20 December 2023** onward are set out below. The requirements affect all seagoing passenger ships on international voyages and domestic passenger ships of Classes A, B, C, D, II(A), III & VI.

*\*Persons on board means **all** people on board irrespective of age and includes the passengers, master, crew and contractors etc.*

#### **Requirements:**

1. **Passenger ships engaged on domestic voyages or operating to and from the same location at sea should enter this location in the Destination Field and update the POB before each departure where the distance sailed from the point of departure to the next port of call does not exceed 20 miles.**
  - a. **Before the ship departs from the port**, the Master must ensure that all persons on board the ship are counted and that this number is then reported via the vessel's AIS.

- b. The vessel's AIS "**Destination Field**" must be updated with the destination and number of persons on board (POB) **before each departure in the following format:**

*Destination ##### POB ### (provide numeric figure)*

- c. Passenger ships operating to and from the same location should enter this location in the Destination Field and update the POB before each departure.

The entry of the above POB information must be made via an approved AIS ("Type A") installed on board the passenger ship. Operators of passenger ships which are currently fitted with ("Type B") AIS\*\* must upgrade to an approved AIS ("Type A") before carrying passengers on or after **20 December 2023**. The exemptions to passenger ships described in [Marine Notice 51 of 2014](#) are withdrawn as and from **20 December 2023**.

*\*\* There are significant differences between Class A and Class B AIS transceivers:*

- *Class A transmission will always have priority over any Class B units in a sea area. This has important implications for search and rescue operations, as delays in data transfer may occur from a vessel having only Class B AIS.*
- *The Class A AIS transceiver has full messaging capability. The format/protocol of the information messaging for Class A is standardised. This is not the case with Class B AIS transceivers, as they cannot provide the full function set and messaging capability.*

**2. Passenger ships engaged on all international voyages or on domestic voyages or operating to and from the same location where the distance sailed from the point of departure to the next port of call should enter this location in the Destination Field and update the POB before each departure exceeds 20 miles.**

- a. **Before the ship departs from** the port the Master must ensure that all persons on board the ship are counted.

- b. The following information shall also be recorded:

- i. the family names of the persons on board;
- ii. their forenames;
- iii. their gender;
- iv. their nationality;
- v. their dates of birth;
- vi. when volunteered by a passenger, information concerning special care or assistance that might be needed in an emergency;
- vii. when volunteered by a passenger, a contact number in case of emergency.

- c. In respect of a passenger ship that departs from a port located in the State, the information listed above at paragraphs (a) and (b) must be collected and reported using SafeSeasIreland (SSI)<sup>\*\*\*</sup> or, where SafeSeasIreland is unavailable for technical reasons, by email to [MSO@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MSO@transport.gov.ie) **before the passenger ship's departure, or no later than 15 minutes after its departure.**
- d. A passenger ship that departs from a port located outside the European Union and is bound for a port in the State must report the information specified above at paragraphs (a) and (b) using SafeSeasIreland or, where SafeSeasIreland is unavailable for technical reasons, by email to [MSO@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MSO@transport.gov.ie) **before the passenger ship's departure, or no later than 15 minutes after its departure from such a port.**

*\*\*\* Agents, Operators or Masters who have any technical queries regarding the use of SafeSeasIreland should in the first instance contact the SSI support e-mail address: [ssi.support@transport.gov.ie](mailto:ssi.support@transport.gov.ie) .*

#### **Contact Details:**

For further information regarding this Marine Notice, or any other relevant matters, please use the below contact details.

- Marine Survey Office  
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60  
Tel: 01 6783400  
Email: [mso@transport.gov.ie](mailto:mso@transport.gov.ie)

**Note:** Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,  
Department of Transport,  
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

16/11/2023

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:  
The Marine Survey Office, email: [MSO@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MSO@transport.gov.ie).  
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:  
[MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie).  
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:  
Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.  
email: [MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie) or visit us at: [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport).