



## INDIAN OCEAN MOU ON PORT STATE CONTROL SECRETARIAT

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### **Outstanding deficiency verification period increased from 6 to 24 months with effect from 01.01.2017**

During an initial PSC inspection of a ship the PSCO may identify deficiencies. It is usual for the PSCO to verify the rectification of outstanding deficiencies. This may be done during that same initial inspection, or the PSCO may conduct a follow-up inspection visit prior to the ship's departure from the port. **However, one or more of the deficiencies may be assigned action code(s) that will require rectification within a specified time frame after the ship's departure from the initial inspection port.** These deficiencies may be structural or operational in nature, relate to equipment on board, or relate to ISM, MLC, or human factors.

When rectification of all outstanding deficiencies of a previous inspection has not been verified and a new initial inspection is conducted, this in no way implies that these outstanding deficiencies have been corrected. Nor does it extinguish the possibility of conducting a follow-up to explicitly verify they have indeed been corrected.

To raise the standard of ship safety by improving the close out rate of outstanding deficiencies, the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMOU) on port State control Committee, during its nineteenth meeting approved to increase the verification of deficiency period from 6 to 24 months. Follow-up inspection visits may be conducted during the 24 months, to verify rectification of all outstanding deficiencies as per the assigned action code(s).

The procedures and data validation rules have been implemented in the Indian Ocean Computerized information system (IOCIS) and all the member Authorities and PSCOs have been informed accordingly and same will be effective from 01.01.2017.

30 December 2016

**Contact:**

IOMOU Secretariat

Ushakal, H. No. 92, Plot No. A-8, Rangavi Estate, Dabolim  
Goa – 403801.India.

Telephone: +91-832-2538128 Facsimile: +911-832-2538127

E-mail: [iomou1@dataone.in](mailto:iomou1@dataone.in) Web-site: [www.iomou.org](http://www.iomou.org)