

Commercial Yacht – Pleasure Yacht Changeover Guidelines

Important Notes:

1. For Malta Registered Yachts there is no limit on the number of changes and the change duration.
2. A change from Pleasure Yacht to Commercial Yacht is subject to the fees and provisions of the First Schedule of the Merchant Shipping Act (CAP.234) Para A.iii. In case of multiple changeovers during a single year (linked to the Certificate of Registry expiry date), the relevant fees shall be paid only once and not during each changeover.
3. It is strongly recommended that Yachts which change from Commercial to Pleasure continue with the same survey and certification regime as required for Commercial Yachts.
4. Prior to submitting an application for changeover, the local Maltese representative shall always receive an undertaking from the yacht's owners/managers confirming that the current Certificate of Registry will be returned to the Administration once the new certificate of Registry is received onboard. A copy of the undertaking shall be attached to the application.
5. The Registry Department may be contacted on e-mail: shipreg.tm@transport.gov.mt
6. The Yachting Section may be contacted on e-mail: yachtsmalta.tm@transport.gov.mt
7. The Finance and Administration unit may be contacted on e-mail: accts.fosmsd@transport.gov.mt

Changeover process from a certified Commercial Yacht to a Pleasure Yacht

1. The local Maltese representative shall submit a request for the Commercial Yacht's Certification to be converted from Commercial to Pleasure. The undertaking by the owners/managers, confirming that they will return the current Certificate of Registry once the new Certificate of Registry is received onboard, shall be attached to the request. The request shall be sent to the Flag Administration on e-mail: shipreg.tm@transport.gov.mt
2. The Administration issues a Certificate of Registry as a Pleasure Yacht.
3. Upon receipt onboard of the new Certificate of Registry, denoting the change in description, the previous Registry Certificate shall immediately be withdrawn and shall be sent to the Flag Administration.
4. The Certificate of Compliance to Trade as a Commercial Yacht (CoC) and all Commercial Yacht related Statutory Certificates, besides MARPOL, AFS, BWM and Tonnage Certificates, shall be kept in the yacht's safe under the responsibility of the Master.

Changeover process from Pleasure Yacht to Commercial Yacht

1. The local Maltese representative shall submit a request for the Yacht's Certification to be converted from Pleasure Yacht to a Commercial Yacht. The undertaking by the owners/managers, confirming that they will return the current Certificate of Registry once the new Certificate of Registry is received onboard, shall be attached to the request. The

- request shall be sent to the Flag Administration on e-mail: shipreg.tm@transport.gov.mt and to the responsible Appointed Surveyor and/or Classification Society Surveyor.
2. For yachts which **were not** previously registered as Commercial Yachts:
 - a) the Owner/Manager shall request the services of the responsible Appointed (Government) Surveyor or Classification Society (Recognised Organisation) whilst the local Maltese representative shall request the Registry Department to authorise the respective Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society to issue the necessary Statutory Certificates;
 - b) the Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society, after satisfactory outcome of Initial Surveys as detailed in Section 20 of the CYC, shall confirm compliance with the Malta Commercial Yacht Code (CYC) and send the relevant survey reports to the Yachting Section for review and for the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance to Trade as a Commercial Yacht (COC).
 3. For yachts which **were** previously registered as Commercial Yachts in compliance with the Malta CYC, the Owner/Manager shall request the services of the responsible Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society.
 - a) For yachts which have **no overdue surveys** and have **no expired** Certificates, there is no need for the Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society to attend onboard and in this case, the Yachting Section shall receive:
 - .1 a Declaration issued from the Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society confirming that no surveys are overdue and that no certificates are expired; and,
 - .2 a Declaration from the Master confirming that from the date of the last periodical survey, the Yacht had not sustained any damages or changes which might affect the validity of the CoC, the Statutory Certificates and the Class Certificate, as applicable.
 - b) For yachts which have **overdue surveys** or **expired** Certificates the Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society shall attend onboard and:
 - .1 subsequent to a satisfactory survey outcome and issuance of the relevant Certificates and survey reports, in line with the requirements of the CYC, the Appointed Surveyor or Classification Society shall confirm that the Yacht is in compliance with the Malta Commercial Yacht Code and that no surveys are overdue and that no certificates are expired.
 - .2 The above confirmation together with the necessary survey reports shall be sent to the Yachting Section who, after satisfactory review, will issue a new CoC or confirm the validity of the existing CoC.
 4. Upon receipt of the above documentation and payment of the adjustment in registration fee, when applicable, the Administration will issue a Commercial Yacht Registration Certificate.
 5. Upon receipt onboard of the new Certificate of Registry, denoting the change in description, the previous Registry Certificate shall immediately be withdrawn and sent to the Flag Administration.