



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 182 of 12th March 2014

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	ILO sets new minimum monthly wage for seafarers
Reference	MLC

ILO sets new minimum monthly wage for seafarers

Min. basic wage from US\$585 goes to US\$592 (2015) and US\$614 (2016)

A Subcommittee of the Joint Maritime Commission (JMC) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) has agreed on a Resolution raising the minimum monthly basic wage figure for able seafarers from US\$585 to US\$592, as of 1 January 2015 and US\$614, as of 1 January 2016.

The current figure of US\$585 came into effect on 31st December 2013 and noted that the purpose of the meeting was to ensure the maintenance of a safety net for seafarers particularly from developing countries.

Reference is made to publications from UN bodies such as UNCTAD that underlined uncertainty in the global economy and challenges facing world trade and particularly over supply of tonnage in the shipping industry.

The decision taken is an appropriate one that gives shipowners adequate notice to be prepared for the impact of agreed changes going forward to 2016.

The mechanism for setting the minimum monthly wage for able seafarers is the only one in the ILO for setting the basic wage for any industry.

The minimum monthly basic wage figure for able seafarers has most recently been included in the ILO's Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006).

The Convention, known as the "seafarers' bill of rights", entered into force on 20 August 2013, and has been ratified by 56 ILO member States representing over 80 per cent of world shipping tonnage.

The Joint Maritime Commission is the only permanent bipartite standing body of the ILO. It dates back to 1920, and is composed of ship-owner and seafarer representatives from across the globe.

Updating of the minimum monthly basic pay or wage figure for able seafarers:

- Seafarers' Wages, Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships Recommendation, 1996 (No. 187)
- Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, Guideline B2.2.4 - Minimum monthly basic pay or wage

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figure for able seafarers.

REFERENCES:

- ILO MLC, Seafarers' wages

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,

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