



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY

Circular No: 17/2026

23 June 2026

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12.3.01.2.2
04.28.003.006.10

To all Registered Owners, Registered Bareboat Charterers,
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus Flag

To all Recognized Organizations (ROs)

To all interested parties and providers of Electronic Record Books

Subject: Use of Electronic Log Books (Deck, Engine Room and GMDSS Radio Log Books) on Cyprus flagged vessels

I refer to above subject and I wish to advise you of the following:

Section 99 of the Merchant Shipping (Masters and Seamen) Laws of 1963 to 2002 (Law 46/63 as amended) provides that an Official Log Book, an Engine Room Log Book and a Radio Log Book, shall be kept in every Cyprus ship, in the appropriate form for that ship approved by the Shipping Deputy Minister.

Taking into consideration the aforementioned provisions, and further to Circulars 25/2020, 27/2022, and 15/2026 the Shipping Deputy Ministry of Cyprus, has decided to accept the replacement of paper-based log books with Electronic Log Books for Deck, Engine Room and GMDSS Radio records. These Electronic Log Books, should meet the requirements of Annex 1 of this Circular and their use remains voluntary. Operators may continue to use a paper-based system

This Circular shall enter into force on 1st July 2026 and from that date **Circular No. 25/2020 will be revoked.**

Electronic Deck Log Book systems for which an approval letter has been issued pursuant to the procedure outlined in Circular No. 25/2020 shall continue to be recognized as approved until the expiration date indicated in the relevant approval letter issued by the SDM. Thereafter, approval of such systems shall be undertaken in accordance with the procedure set forth in this Circular.

This Circular shall be kept on board vessels flying the Cyprus Flag.

For any questions concerning the content of this Circular, you may contact: Shipping Deputy Ministry – Technical Support to the Registry Tel: +357 25 848100, e-mail: manning@dms.gov.cy.



Dr. Theodoulos Mesimeris
Acting Permanent Secretary

- cc:
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
 - Diplomatic and Consular Missions of the Republic
 - Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
 - Cyprus Shipping Chamber
 - Cyprus Union of Ship Owners
 - Cyprus Bar Association

Annex

Guidelines for the use of Electronic Deck / Engine Room/ GMDSS Radio Log Books on board Cyprus flagged ships

1. Purpose

This Annex is intended to provide guidance on the use of Electronic Log Books on board Cyprus flagged ships and to describe the procedure for applying for their approval.

2. Technical Standards

- The system should comply with the principles and technical specifications set out in ISO 21745:2019, "Electronic record books for ships - Technical specifications and operational requirements", or MEPC.312(74) – Guidelines for the Use of Electronic Record Books as amended under MARPOL.
- The system needs to comply with Resolution A.813(19) – Electromagnetic Compatibility for Electrical and Electronic Ship's Equipment as amended and MSC/Circular.982 – Guidelines on Ergonomic Criteria for Bridge Equipment and Layout as amended.
- The software must be capable to export records and reproducing records in hard copy (i.e. pdf);
- The software must be capable to support different users with unique username and password;
- The software **must not allow** the permanent deletion of any entry;
- The software should maintain data integrity when there is a power loss;
- The equipment for the Electronic Log Book should not affect by any means the proper function of the navigation systems / engine control room systems and other equipment on board;
- The power supply to the equipment should be fed from both main and emergency source of power;
- The software should have the capability to allow automatic back-up of data in the system to the offline storage at least daily.
- The log book must contain all the data required by the relevant Convention/Regulations
- The software must provide for entry of data as per the IMO Resolution A.916(22) "Guidelines for the Recording of the events related to Navigation including future amendments;

The Electronic (Deck/Engine Room/GMDSS Radio) Log Book shall include as a minimum the information described in the Annexes of [Circular No. 27/2022](#)

3. Assessment and Declaration

The assessment of the Electronic Log Books is delegated to the Recognised Organisations (ROs) authorised by the Republic of Cyprus to provide statutory

certification and services. Upon assessment, the RO issues a "Declaration by the RO" as per the sample in the Appendix. Performance evaluation may be conducted remotely in accordance with the RO's Remote Survey Procedure. The RO must notify the Administration within five working days of issuing the Declaration. The RO appointed for the assessment may differ from the ship's classification society. The validity of the RO Declaration shall not exceed three months.

Within two months of the issuance of the "Declaration by the RO" the company shall apply for the Shipping Deputy Ministry's Declaration. Applications should be submitted by email to manning@dms.gov.cy with a copy of the RO Declaration attached.

The applicable fee for review and issue of the Declaration is 50 Euro for each log book.

4. Company Responsibility¹

The company is responsible for maintaining the Electronic Log Book system, training crew, updating procedures, and ensuring compliance with applicable conventions. The company must amend relevant sections of the onboard Procedures Manual and ensure all equipment and software manuals are available onboard in English and in a language understood by the crew.

5. System's Failure or System cannot be used

In the case where the Electronic Log Book System become unavailable or malfunction, notification shall be provided without delay to the Administration and the vessel's Recognised Organisation (RO). The operator shall conduct an assessment of the failure and develop an action plan for its resolution, together with appropriate contingency arrangements. Such arrangements may include the temporary use of paper-based log books until the Electronic Log Book System has been fully restored and verified as operational.

6. Reflagging

In cases of reflagging, any existing Electronic Log Book declarations issued by or on behalf of the previous administration must be replaced by an SDM Declaration within three months, following the procedure outlined in paragraph 3 above.

¹ As defined by the ISM Code.

Appendix

DECLARATION OF ELECTRONIC RECORD BOOK

Issued by
under the authority of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus

In reference to the requirements set out in the
Circular No. 17/2026 of the Shipping Deputy Ministry

Name of Ship:

IMO Number:

Gross Tonnage:

This is to declare that the electronic system installed on the ship listed above has been assessed by and is consistent with the requirements set forth in Circular 17/2026 of the Shipping Deputy Ministry and the guidelines developed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to be used in lieu of the paper-based Deck Log Book / Engine Room Log Book / GMDSS Radio Records¹.

Electronic Record Book Manufacturer	
Electronic Record Book Supplier	
Electronic Record Book Installer	
Electronic Record Book Software Name/Version	
Date of installation (dd/mm/yyyy)	

Issued at on

Valid until²

.....
NAME

.....
SIGNATURE

¹ Delete as appropriate

² No more than three months from the date of issue.

