



## Management System

# FLEET DIRECTIVE

FD2404

18 January 2024

### Ship Security

This Fleet Directive is issued as an interim amendment to MSMS until a new version is released. The instructions contained in this Directive are to be considered integral parts of MSMS with immediate effect and the Directive remains valid until formally withdrawn.

The recent external audits have identified weaknesses in the implementation of ship security requirements. For a vessel trading worldwide, robust security procedures and good knowledge of these by the relevant people are vital to ensuring the safety of all onboard. With that in mind a new section will be added to the next revision of MSMS, however the following procedures come into force immediately:

#### 1. Why is Ship Security Important?

As long as ships sail the world's oceans carrying valuable cargoes and crews, and as long as geopolitical tensions exist, there will always exist some security risk to merchant vessels. It is important to have effective procedures in place to ensure that ship security is considered in every operation and that measures are put in place when required.

In recent months the security threat to merchant shipping has grown, and the effectiveness of the ship's procedures could mean the difference between getting safely to your next port or being boarded.

#### 2. Who is Responsible for Ship Security

While the Master and Ship Security Officer (SSO) have operational responsibility for ship security, supported by the Company Security Officer (CSO) – at the end of the day they cannot make the ship secure by themselves. Everyone on the ship is responsible for ship security, by following these procedures and the instructions of the Master, SSO and CSO.

#### 3. How is Ship Security Managed?

The ship has been issued a Ship Security Plan. This is a restricted document that must be kept in the locked custody of the Master. Only the Master and SSO (onboard) and CSO (ashore) have the right to access all parts of this document and all three must be familiar with its contents.

The Ship Security Plan is specific to the vessel and implements measures to keep the ship secure from the risks identified during an earlier Ship Security Assessment. It sets out what systems and equipment is onboard, what training and drills are required and importantly what is to be done when entering areas with a higher security risk.

The Ship Security Plan must be reviewed at least annually by the SSO and the Master. The results of that review are to be sent to the CSO, who must respond within seven days.

