

**FEBRUARY 21, 2001**

**CIRCULAR NO. 3/01**

**TO MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**Dear Member:**

**COMPULSORY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS**

New compulsory insurance requirements for non-tankers are about to come into force in Australia. Details are available on the website of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) at <http://www.amsa.gov.au> on the "Marine Notices" page (see Marine Notice number 3 for 2001). If this page has been used before, it may be necessary to use the "refresh" button to see the latest changes. In any event, a copy of the relevant notice is attached.

From April 6, 2001 ships of 400 gt or more (excluding tankers covered by CLC certificates) will be required to carry a "relevant insurance certificate" containing the following information:

- a) the name of the ship
- b) the name of the ship's owner
- c) the name and address of the insurer
- d) the commencement date of the insurance
- e) the amount of cover which must in any event not be less than the limit of liability under the Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims Convention 1976 (LLMC).

The "relevant insurance certificate" will need to be produced during port state control inspections and those undertaken by the Australian Customs Service on entering or leaving Australian ports.

A six month period of grace will be allowed before full enforcement action is undertaken: ships without sufficient documentation on board will be given a warning until September 5, 2001. Thereafter ships will be detained until the required documentation is produced.

AMSA officials have indicated that although the Notice requires that the amount of cover be set out in the certificate of entry, if a dollar amount is not set out a reference to the relevant provisions of the Club's Rules will be sufficient. Club cover will need to extend at least to the current cover provided under LLMC as amended.

AMSA officials have also indicated that although an original or certified copy will need to be produced, a fax or photocopy will be acceptable for up to a month after the anniversary date of 20 February each year.

If any Member has questions in regard to the above or to the contents of the attachment, the Managers will be happy to respond.

Yours faithfully,

Joseph E.M. Hughes, Chairman & CEO  
Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Managers for  
**THE AMERICAN CLUB**

Attachment

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