

# SHIPPING INDUSTRY FLAG STATE PERFORMANCE TABLE 2013/2014



INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF SHIPPING (ICS)  
INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING FEDERATION (ISF)

# SHIPPING INDUSTRY FLAG STATE PERFORMANCE TABLE

## THE FOLLOWING TABLE IS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY

[www.ics-shipping.org/docs/flagstateperformancetable](http://www.ics-shipping.org/docs/flagstateperformancetable)

**There is nothing inherently unusual in an international ship registry system in which the owner of a ship may be located in a country other than the state whose flag the ship flies. However, a balance has to be struck between the commercial advantages of selecting a particular flag and the need to discourage the use of flags that do not meet their international obligations.**

**The purpose of this Flag State Performance Table is two-fold:**

- To encourage shipowners and operators to examine whether a flag state has sufficient substance before using it.**
- To encourage shipowners and operators to put pressure on their flag administrations to effect any improvements that might be necessary, especially in relation to safety of life at sea, the protection of the marine environment, and the provision of decent working and living conditions for seafarers.**

### **How to use the Table**

This Table summarises factual information in the public domain that might be helpful in assessing the performance of flag states. Sources are shown overleaf.

**Positive performance indicators are shown as green squares on the Table.**

Like all statistics, the Table needs to be used with care. Where a flag state is missing a single positive indicator, in itself this does not provide a reliable measurement of performance. For example, a flag state might be unable to ratify a Convention due to conflict with domestic law but might nevertheless implement its main requirements.

However, if a large number of positive indicators are shown as being absent, this might suggest that performance is unsatisfactory and that shipping companies should ask further questions of the flag state concerned.

# FLAG STATE PERFORMANCE TABLE

BASED ON THE MOST UP TO DATE DATA AVAILABLE AS OF THE END OF JUNE 2013\*

**GREEN** squares suggest positive performance indicators, with potentially negative performance highlighted by **RED** squares (although individual indicators should be considered within the context of the Table as a whole). For additional information about criteria used see footnotes overleaf.

## PORT STATE CONTROL

A simple means of assessing the effective enforcement of international rules is to examine the collective Port State Control record of ships flying a particular flag.

The three principal Port State Control (PSC) authorities are the countries of the Paris Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Tokyo MOU and the United States Coast Guard (USCG). All three authorities target particular flags on the basis of deficiencies and detentions recorded for ships flying that flag. The Table identifies flag states that feature on the Paris and Tokyo MOUs' white lists and USCG's Qualship 21 program, and those which do not appear on their respective black lists/target lists. Ships whose flag states do not appear on PSC white lists tend to be subject to a greater likelihood of inspections.

The Table now also identifies those flags whose ships suffered no detentions within a particular PSC region over the previous three years, but did not meet the relevant minimum requirement of inspections or arrivals to be included in the MOU white lists/Qualship 21 program.

The full criteria for PSC are explained in the footnotes to the Table.

## RATIFICATION OF MAJOR INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TREATIES

Ratification of international maritime Conventions does not necessarily confirm whether the provisions of these global instruments are being properly enforced. However, a flag state should be able to provide good reason for not having ratified any of the instruments referred to in the Table.

The Table refers to those 'core' Conventions, relevant to flag state responsibilities, which already enjoy widespread ratification and enforcement. The full criteria for the Conventions listed are shown in the footnotes to the Table.

In order to take account of more recent ratifications, entries for ratification of Conventions are based on the most up to date data available as of 1 December 2013.

## USE OF RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS COMPLYING WITH A.739

IMO Resolution A.739 requires flag states to establish controls over Recognized Organizations (ROs) conducting survey work on their behalf, and which determine that these bodies have adequate resources for the tasks assigned. There are no published data for determining whether each of the various ROs conducting survey work on behalf of flag states complies with IMO Resolution A.739. For the purpose of this Table, however, it is assumed that members of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS) comply.

Nevertheless, there are several other organisations that are not members of IACS that also fully meet the standards required by IMO, and the fact that a flag administration might recognise a non-IACS member does **not** mean that the flag is in any way deficient. However, if a flag state recognises large numbers of organisations that are not IACS members, there might be reason to doubt whether all of the bodies conducting surveys on behalf of the flag state actually comply with IMO requirements.

The Table therefore positively indicates flags that recognise no more than six ROs that are not members of IACS (and which have submitted their RO data to IMO in line with A.739).

## AGE OF FLEET

**A high concentration of older tonnage under a particular flag does not necessarily mean that this tonnage is in any way substandard.** However, a flag which has a concentration of younger ships is more likely to attract quality tonnage than a flag state with a high concentration of older vessels. As a positive indicator, the Table therefore shows the 90% of flags whose ships have the lowest average age, amongst those listed, in terms of ship numbers. **The above notwithstanding, it is strongly emphasised that the position of ICS is that the age of an individual ship is not an indicator of quality, and that the condition of an individual ship is ultimately determined by the standard of its maintenance.**

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

To encourage implementation of international instruments, there are various reporting requirements, both mandatory and recommendatory, concerning the submission of information by flag states to bodies such as IMO and ILO. Information covering the extent to which flags have complied with certain reporting requirements is not always available in the public domain. However, as an indicator, the Table shows flags that have submitted compliance and practice reports required by ILO.

The Table also records flags that have submitted adequate reports of independent evaluations to IMO confirming continuing compliance with the STCW Convention. IMO is not expected to publish data about the submission of reports demonstrating compliance with STCW 2010 until at least 2014. This year's Table therefore records whether a flag has submitted sufficient information to appear on the original STCW 'white list' as required by STCW 95.

## ATTENDANCE AT IMO MEETINGS

Although in itself not an indicator of their safety and environmental record, flag states that attend the major IMO meetings (Maritime Safety Committee, Marine Environment Protection Committee and Legal Committee) are thought more likely to be seriously committed to the implementation and enforcement of IMO rules.

Attendance at these meetings is also important to keep abreast of regulatory developments. The Table identifies flag states that have been represented at all meetings of these three major IMO committees, plus the biennial meeting of the IMO Assembly, during the two years previous to June 2013.

\* Entries for ratification of Conventions are based on the most up to date data available as of 1 December 2013.

**GREEN SQUARES**  
SUGGEST POSITIVE  
PERFORMANCE  
INDICATORS

\* UK dependent territories

	PORT STATE CONTROL						RATIFICATION OF CONVENTIONS							A739	AGE	REPORTS		IMO
	PARIS MOU WHITE LIST	NOT ON PARIS MOU BLACK LIST	TOKYO MOU WHITE LIST	NOT ON TOKYO MOU BLACK LIST	USCG QUALSHIP 21	NOT ON USCG TARGET LIST (SAFETY)	SOLAS 74 (AND 88 PROTOCOL)	MARPOL INCLUDING ANNEXES I - II	MARPOL ANNEXES III - VI	LL 66 (AND 88 PROTOCOL)	STCW 78	ILO MLC	CLC/FUND 92	RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS	AGE (SHIP NUMBERS)	STCW 95 'WHITE LIST'	COMPLETED FULL ILO REPORTS	IMO MEETINGS ATTENDANCE
ALBANIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
ALGERIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ARGENTINA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
AUSTRALIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BAHAMAS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BAHRAIN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
BANGLADESH	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BARBADOS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BELGIUM	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BELIZE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BERMUDA *	■	■	■	■	■	■	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	■	■	UK	UK	UK
BOLIVIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BRAZIL	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
BULGARIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CAMBODIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CANADA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CAYMAN ISLANDS *	■	■	■	■	■	■	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	■	■	UK	UK	UK
CHILE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CHINA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
COLOMBIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
COOK ISLANDS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
COSTA RICA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
COTE D'IVOIRE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
CROATIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CUBA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
CYPRUS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
DEM. PEOPLE'S REP. KOREA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
DEM. REP. OF THE CONGO	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
DENMARK	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
DOMINICA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
EGYPT	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ESTONIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
FAROE ISLANDS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
FINLAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
FRANCE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
GEORGIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
GERMANY	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
GHANA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
GIBRALTAR *	■	■	■	■	■	■	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	■	■	UK	UK	UK
GREECE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HONDURAS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HONG KONG (CHINA)	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ICELAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
INDIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
INDONESIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
IRAN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
IRELAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ISLE OF MAN *	■	■	■	■	■	■	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	■	■	UK	UK	UK
ISRAEL	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ITALY	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
JAMAICA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
JAPAN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
JORDAN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
KENYA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
KUWAIT	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

■ – Indicates where a UK dependent territory's entry is based on the ratification, reporting or IMO meeting attendance of the UK 'mainland' flag.  
 ■ – Indicates where a flag administration suffered no detentions within the particular PSC region for the period, but did not meet the relevant minimum requirement of inspections/arrivals to be included in an MOU white list or the USCG Qualship 21 program.

**GREEN SQUARES**  
SUGGEST POSITIVE  
PERFORMANCE  
INDICATORS

	PORT STATE CONTROL						RATIFICATION OF CONVENTIONS							A739	AGE	REPORTS		IMO
	PARIS MOU WHITE LIST	NOT ON PARIS MOU BLACK LIST	TOKYO MOU WHITE LIST	NOT ON TOKYO MOU BLACK LIST	USCG QUALSHIP 21	NOT ON USCG TARGET LIST (SAFETY)	SOLAS 74 (AND 88 PROTOCOL)	MARPOL INCLUDING ANNEXES I - II	MARPOL ANNEXES III - VI	LL 66 (AND 88 PROTOCOL)	STCW 78	ILO MLC	CLC/FUND 92	RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS	AGE (SHIP NUMBERS)	STCW 95 'WHITE LIST'	COMPLETED FULL ILO REPORTS	IMO MEETINGS ATTENDANCE
LATVIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
LEBANON	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
LIBERIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
LIBYA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
LITHUANIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
LUXEMBOURG	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MALAYSIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MALTA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MARSHALL ISLANDS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MAURITIUS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MEXICO	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MONGOLIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MOROCCO	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
MYANMAR	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
NETHERLANDS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
NEW ZEALAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
NIGERIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
NORWAY	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PAKISTAN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PANAMA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PHILIPPINES	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
POLAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PORTUGAL	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
QATAR	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ROMANIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ST. KITTS & NEVIS	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
ST. VINCENT & GRENADINES	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SAO TOME & PRINCIPE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
SAUDI ARABIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SIERRA LEONE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SINGAPORE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SOUTH AFRICA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SPAIN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SRI LANKA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SWEDEN	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SWITZERLAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
THAILAND	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
TONGA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
TUNISIA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
TURKEY	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
TUVALU	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
UKRAINE	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
UNITED KINGDOM	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	■	■	■	■	N/A	N/A	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
URUGUAY	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	N/S	■	■	■	■
VANUATU	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
VENEZUELA	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
VIET NAM	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

N/S – No data submitted to IMO - can be regarded as negative indicator.

N/A – Data not applicable - US not eligible for Qualship 21 or USCG target listing.

## FOOTNOTES

### Port State Control

Source: Paris MOU Annual Report 2012; Tokyo MOU Annual Report 2012; USCG Qualship 21 Fully Qualified Flag Administrations for 2013 and USCG Targeted Flag Administrations for 2013, USCG Port State Control Annual Report 2012.

Paris and Tokyo MOU data relate to their 'black lists' but not their 'grey lists'. Many flag states which are on neither the MOU 'white list' or 'black list' are included in the 'grey list'. However, it should be noted that flag states whose ships have been inspected less than 30 times in the last 3 years do not appear in any of the MOU lists. This principle applies in both the Paris MOU and Tokyo MOU regions.

The USCG methodology for evaluating PSC detention ratios (USCG target list and Qualship 21) uses the detention ratio formula of detentions/distinct vessel arrivals, rather than detentions/inspections as used by the Paris and Tokyo MOUs. In order to be considered for Qualship 21 status, a flag state's ships must have made at least 10 distinct arrivals per calendar year for the previous three years.

The Table now also identifies those flags whose ships suffered no detentions within a particular PSC region over the previous three years, but did not meet the relevant minimum requirement of inspections or arrivals to be included in the MOU white lists/Qualship 21 program.

In order to be identified in this way with the respect to the Qualship 21 program, a flag must have made at least three distinct arrivals in each of the previous three years.

Some flag states may therefore not receive a positive indicator despite having had zero detentions.

There are various other regional and national PSC regimes worldwide, but in the interests of simplicity the performance Table only uses data from the three principal regional PSC authorities.

### Ratification of Conventions

Source: IMO report 'Status of Conventions', IMO website ([www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)), ILO website ([www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org)) (all as at 1 December 2013)

The criteria for the Conventions listed in the Table are:

**International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974** as amended (SOLAS 74) - includes the 1988 Protocol

**International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978** as amended (STCW 78) including the 2010 amendments which entered into force in January 2012

**International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973** as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78) - the Table includes one column for the ratification of MARPOL and its mandatory Annexes I (oil) and II (bulk chemicals); and a second column for the remaining Annexes III (dangerous packaged goods), IV (sewage), V (garbage) and VI (atmospheric pollution) which as of January 2013 also covers CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

**International Convention on Load Lines, 1966** (LL 66) - includes the 1988 Protocol

**ILO Maritime Labour Convention, 2006** (ILO MLC) which entered into force in August 2013

**International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992**, and the **International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1992** (CLC/Fund 92) - includes the 1992 Protocols

### Average Age

Source: IHS Fairplay Ship Database (3rd quarter 2013)

Second register ships are incorporated under main national register. Includes trading ships over 100 gt

### Reports

Source: Report of the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations 2013, [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org); various IMO MSC circulars

### IMO Attendance

Source: IMO Meeting Reports

Published by

### International Chamber of Shipping

38 St Mary Axe

London

EC3A 8BH

Telephone + 44 20 7090 1460

[info@ics-shipping.org](mailto:info@ics-shipping.org)

[www.ics-shipping.org/docs/flagstateperformancetable](http://www.ics-shipping.org/docs/flagstateperformancetable)



The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) is the principal international trade association for the shipowners, concerned with all regulatory, operational and legal issues.



The International Shipping Federation (ISF) is the identity used by ICS when representing the industry on employment affairs issues.

The membership of ICS (and ISF) comprises national shipowners' associations representing all sectors and trades from 35 countries, covering more than 80% of the world merchant fleet.