

“Merkið” on the White List of Flags

It has now been officially confirmed – “Merkið” is listed in the Paris MoU White List. In the Paris MoU home page (www.parismou.org) an overview has just been published, which shows that the Faroese flag has moved up from the grey and into the White List. Amongst other criteria, this is one that identifies the prominent and safety focused flag states and shipping nations.



By the Paris Memorandum of Understanding – or Paris MoU – the Faroese flag has until now been ranked in their Grey list of flags. Some 10 years back it was even amongst the black listed flags for a short period.

As we know, the previously poor ranking of the Faroese flag was due to the persistently large amount of observations and subsequent detentions of Faroese ships in port due to poor safety and operational conditions on board. With an unorganised approach to operational issues such poor result will inevitably be an outcome, even if ships may be in a good technical condition.

For a number of years FMA has aimed at developing in-house routines and improving co-operation with companies that choose the Faroese flag for their ships.

Furthermore, the systematic attack on the enhancement of procedures and maintenance routines on board ships has been possible due to a close co-operation between the companies, the sailing personnel and the flag state.

Hence, the fact that our efforts now seem to be paying off must be attributed to the two other parties involved, i.e. the safety and quality focused owners and managers of ships flying the Faroese flag, as well as to the competent and hard-working onboard complements.

It has been an uphill task, and an important goal has now been achieved. Nevertheless, there must be no room for complacency, as the achievement may easily be lost unless focus is maintained.

For this reason the next goal is to further improve our results, and keep moving upwards on the White List. For FMA, a part of this is to work meticulously on our services and to further enhance the relationship with companies and the sailing personnel. Our hope is that every company sets tangible and realistic goals to ensure

Upward mobility amongst the white listed flags.

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Tommy Petersen (SIGN.)
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