We like to inform you with this circular as agreed during a.m. meeting (see item 6 section 3) that we have meanwhile informed all owners of German flagged ships of non-convention size (e.g. ships with less than 500 GT in foreign trade, all cargo and passenger ships in national trade only, fishing vessels with less than 24 m in length) that the "Ship Safety Degree" (Schiffssicherheitsverordnung, Annex 2, Section B No. 3.1) requires the competence of the Ship Safety Division for all required surveys of such kind of ships.

All surveys are to be applied by owners at this administration and will be carried out under normal circumstances by surveyors of the Ship Safety Division.

In single cases a classification society recognized by Germany may perform these surveys after clarification with the Ship Safety Division.

Please find as annex to this circular our letter to the said owners dated 2012-08-31 (this letter is available in German language only).

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