



The Cayman Islands Shipping Registry ("CISR") is a division of the Maritime Authority of the Cayman Islands, itself being a statutory agency of the Cayman Islands Government. The CISR is a British port of registry, meaning that all vessels registered here are designated British ships and may therefore fly the Cayman Islands Marine Ensign.

Our legislation, The Merchant Shipping Act (2008 Revision), has adopted other acts so that it meets the standards of the International Maritime Organisation Conventions. This legislation, coupled with an efficient, modern maritime administration, a professionally qualified and highly experienced global team of professional surveyors, auditors and registration personnel, makes the Cayman Islands one of the most popular jurisdictions for the registration of foreign owned vessels.

At R&H Trust & Corporate (operating as The R & H Trust Co. Ltd.) we can assist with the registration of your vessel in the Cayman Islands and serve as the required Cayman Islands shipping representative for non-Cayman resident/incorporated/registered owners, or assist with incorporation or registration of a Cayman Islands entity to own the vessel.

The Cayman Islands is increasingly becoming the jurisdiction of choice with owners to register pleasure yachts, super yachts and commercial vessels (merchant ships and commercial yachts) and there are a number of reasons why this is the case, including:

- It is because of a modern and comprehensive maritime legislation that is based on English Common Act, that the Cayman Islands provides a safe, stable and highly regarded flag for the registration and is a preferred jurisdiction for the incorporation of special purpose vehicles to own a yacht or ship.
- The high standards of the Maritime Authority and its network of global offices have resulted in the CISR being internationally respected and recognised throughout the industry. Vessels flagging the Cayman Islands Red Ensign flag come under the protection of the British Royal Navy.
- The tax neutral status of the Cayman Islands.
- The Cayman Islands are amongst the top offshore financial services centres in the world because of its corporate legal, banking and accounting services systems.
- Vessels of any size or type (international fishing vessels are not accepted) may be registered in Cayman provided that they qualify.

The Cayman Islands Government and shipping registry services sector work closely with each other to ensure that it stays in tune with the relevant changes to international regulations and best practices so that clients and investors continue to have the confidence and assurances needed in today's business environment.

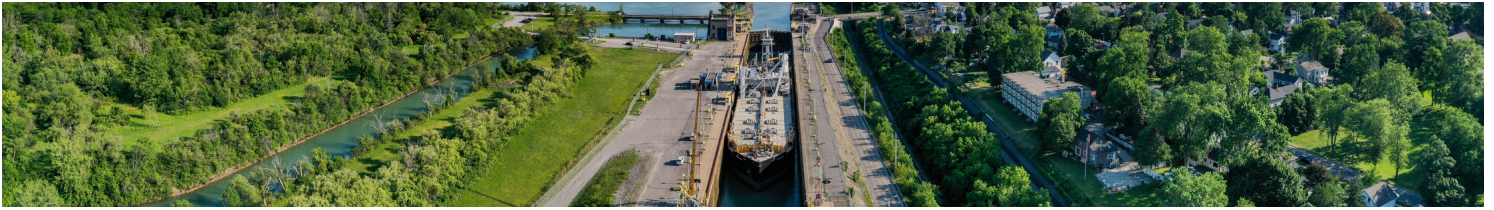
Ship Registration Process

There are several reasons for registering a vessel, the obvious being to be able prove its nationality when overseas, to establish whether it is a pleasure or commercial vessel or because it is a prerequisite when financing is required.

To register a vessel in one's own name, you must be a citizen of one of the countries specified in the Merchant Shipping Act, and if it is to be registered in the name of a shipping entity (i.e. partnership) or company, it must be registered or have a place of business in the countries which are again set out in the Act. However, qualifying ownership can be met simply by using a Cayman company as the registered owner as the CISR do not look to the beneficial ownership of the entity. An individual who does not qualify, can however be part-owner of a Cayman registered vessel if a qualified owner owns a majority interest in the vessel.

The CISR offers vessel and mortgage registration of merchant vessels, private and commercial yachts, passenger yachts and yachts under construction at the ports of registration in George Town, The Creek, and Bloody Bay.

The process of registration requires the completion and filing of the Forms CISR 854 – 857. Once the CISR is satisfied with the documentation filed, a Carving and Marking Note is issued to the owner and after inspection and signing of the Note, the CISR then issues a Certificate of British Registry along with the Tonnage Certificate.



The Radio Call Sign is allocated by the CISR but the Maritime Mobile Service Identities (MMSI) numbers are assigned by The Information and Communications Technology Authority (ICTA), an independent statutory Authority. The CISR does however issue the Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate.

Our Services

R&H Trust & Corporate can provide various yacht and ship registration services from the formation of a corporate asset holding vehicle, if chosen, through the registration process with the CISR. In the majority of cases, a Cayman Islands exempted company can be established as a special purpose vehicle in order to meet the qualified requirements noted set out in the application Forms.

The procedure to establish a Cayman Islands exempted company is quick and easy: the incorporation is effected on the day the registration documents are filed with the Cayman Islands Registrar of Companies.

For further information regarding the formation of corporate vehicles, our Corporate Services brochure is available upon request.

Please contact us for more information on the registration requirements or regarding the procedure and the relevant vessel application documents.

The R & H Trust Co. Ltd.