



PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

Port Notice No. 11 of 2025

To: Operators of Marine Terminals and Marine Facilities
Operators of Marinas and Yachting Centres
Port Stakeholders
Port Facility Security Officers

Malta Transport Centre,
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Malta

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Port Security Regulations: Mandatory Port Facility Security Assessments and Development and Updating of Plans

The Authority for Transport in Malta hereby brings to the attention of all concerned the following.

Following the deliberations of the Port Security Working Committee of 4th December 2025, the Authority is hereby requesting that all ISPS Port Facilities¹ are to use an approved Recognised Security Organisation (RSO) of their choice within the approved list of RSO's to carry out new Port Facility Security Assessments (PFSA) and consequently, to update their respective Port Facility Security Plans (PFSP).

These PFSA's must be submitted to the PSO Office by **31st January 2026**. Following the vetting, approval and certification of such, the updated Port Facility Security Plans (PFSP) shall be submitted to the PSO Office by **4th March 2026**.

This is in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EC) No 725/2004 of 31 March 2004 on enhancing ship and port facility security; Commission Directive (EC) No 65/2005 of 26 October 2005 on enhancing port security; the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS); and the Ports Security Regulations (S.L. 499.35).

All ISPS Port Facilities are hereby reminded that all their Port Facility Security Officers (PFSO's) and their Deputy Port Facility Security Officers (DPFSO's) must all be formally appointed, fully trained in ISPS statutory and technical knowledge and certified accordingly. These ISPS Port Facilities and their officers must continuously prove, including during inspections, audits, drills, exercises and colloquiums, that they possess appropriate, valid and approved certification and knowledge.

All the PFSO's, DPFSO's and their respective assistants must be fully conversant with their formal statutory roles, remits, responsibilities and legal obligations. They shall be responsible for their ISPS Port Facility's security arrangements, annual compliance plans, documentation, procedures and ISPS-related operations, including the following to achieve obligatory minimum standards:

¹ "Port Facility" means a location, as determined by the Authority, where the ship-port interface takes place, including areas such as anchorages, waiting berths and approaches from seaward as appropriate. It includes marine terminals, marine facilities, marinas and yachting centres.



Transport Malta

- i. The development of an updated PFSA on a new PFSA template (*to be provided by Authority*). PFSA's are to be endorsed by the PFSO and RSO;
- ii. The carrying out of training and certification of the PFSO's, DPFSO's and their assistants, including all security personnel and the ICT responsible personnel regarding the required ISPS cyber-security provisions and Standard Operating Procedures;
- iii. The development of the PFSP on the PFSP template (*to be provided by the Authority*) based on the updated and approved PFSA. PFSP's are to be endorsed by the PFSO and DPFSO; and
- iv. The development of an annual plan of all ISPS drills and exercises that shall be carried out throughout the year (including a calendar schedule and a clear description of the drill/exercise).

All the documents listed in (i) to (iv) above submitted to the approval of the Authority are to be endorsed by an RSO. **This documentation must reach the office of the PSO within the deadlines stipulated in this Port Notice, and thereafter on a yearly basis by the end of January of the respective year.**

All ISPS Port Facilities are to use only RSO's approved by the Authority. Approved RSO's are listed on the Authority's website.

All concerned are advised that the Authority will be conducting audits of all ISPS Port Facilities to verify compliance in announced and non-announced inspections and oversight audits in the coming year/s. Enforcement and legal action will be taken in the event of non-compliance with these directives.

Queries or requests for clarification and submissions should be addressed to:

The Designated Authority (National Maritime Security)

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Port Notice 03/2020 is hereby being revoked.

**Captain Fritz Farrugia
Chief Officer and Harbour Master
Ports and Yachting Directorate**

19th December 2025