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Are You Flying the Right Flag?

A few days before Christmas 2011, Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay decided to close their ports to vessels flying the Falkland flag. Naturally, this led to ambassadors and other diplomats being hastily summoned to explain. A former head of the Royal Navy also went so far as to call for a nuclear submarine to be sent to the region.

Events such as these emphasise the importance of choosing the right flag for your vessel or that of your client.

The advantages of registering a yacht or ship in Gibraltar are many. British registration is recognised as one of the most popular means of safeguarding a marine investment.

Any foreign national, through a Gibraltar company, can own and register a vessel on the British Register of Shipping. Gibraltar is a British port of registry where vessels can enjoy British registration without being liable for payment of VAT.

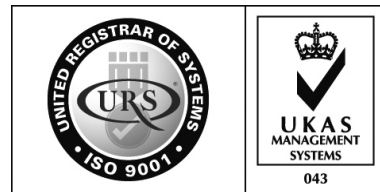
Benefits also derive from Gibraltar's status as part of the European Community, such as the freedom to transport cargoes under the cabotage system. The Gibraltar Ship Register is fully recognised as an EU Member States' Register.

As a modern finance centre, Gibraltar has well established legal and financial institutions. Owners can have confidence in the maritime legal system, which follows English law.

The Register provides security, good title, and comparative ease of registration with adequate safeguards. It also provides the user with all the protection, and obligations, of

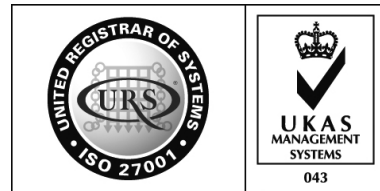
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registration under the British flag including the assistance of embassies and consulates worldwide.

Vessels registered in Gibraltar fly the Red Ensign defaced with the armorial bearings of Gibraltar and as such, are entitled to Royal Navy protection.

**Please do not hesitate to contact our Marine Division.
We will be happy to be of assistance.**

<http://www.europa.gi/en/marine/>



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Our mailing address is:
Europa Trust Company Limited
Suite 24, Watergardens 6
PO Box 629
Gibraltar, Gibraltar GX11 1AA

Telephone: +350 200 79013
Fax: +350 200 70101
Email: info@europa.gi

<http://www.europa.gi>

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