**MECAL Ltd Standard Terms and Conditions**

**1. Definitions**

a) MECAL Ltd is a Limited Company. These terms and conditions apply to all business, conducted in the name of MECAL Ltd by any of its directors, employees or authorised subcontractors.

b) “Client” shall mean any person(s), company(s) or authority(s) who shall order /purchase Services from MECAL Ltd.

c) “Coding” shall mean the process comprising the performance of Services by MECAL Ltd in accordance with Statutory requirements of the Client’s vessel or vessels to enable a Commercial Certificate to be issued by MECAL Ltd in respect of such vessel or vessels.

d) “Contract” shall mean the contract for sale or supply of Services by MECAL Ltd to the Client.

e) “Contract period” shall mean the period of time during which MECAL Ltd shall provide Services for the Client this being normally five (5) years from the date of Coding (date of issue of Commercial Certificate) of the vessel or vessels.

f) “Report” means any report or statement supplied by the Surveyor/Consultant in connection with instructions received from the Client.

g) “Disbursements” means the cost of all reasonable photography, reproduction of drawings, diagrams, sketches and printing, duplicating and, where applicable, electronic transmission fees, and all reasonable and appropriate expenses including travel, refreshments and hotel accommodation where an overnight stay is necessary.

h) "Fees" means the fees charged by the Surveyor/Consultant to the Client and including any Value Added Tax (VAT) where appropriate at the rate applicable at the date of invoice and any Disbursements

i) “Services” shall mean any activity undertaken by MECAL Ltd on behalf of and / or as directed by the Client required to enable MECAL Ltd to complete Coding of the Client’s vessel or vessels which shall include but not be limited to examination and surveying of the vessel or vessels and undertaking any other enquiries necessary to satisfy the Client’s wishes and / or to comply with Statutory requirements.

**2. Scope**

MECAL Ltd shall provide its Services solely in accordance with these terms and conditions.

**3. Work**

The Client will set out in writing the Services which it requiresMECAL Ltd to provide for the duration of the Contract Period. MECAL Ltd will confirm in writing that it accepts those instructions or alternatively what Services it will perform in connection with the Client's instructions. Once MECAL Ltd and the Client have agreed what Services are to be performed any subsequent changes or additions must be agreed by both parties in writing.

**4. Payment Terms**

The Client shall pay MECAL Ltd fees punctually in accordance with these Conditions and in any event not later than 14 days following the relevant invoice date, or in such other manner as may have been agreed in writing between the parties. Any delay in payment after 30 days shall entitle MECAL Ltd to claim interest in accordance with the Late Payment of Commercial Debt (Interest) Act 1998 ("the Act") for all commercial debts at 8% above the Bank of England base rate prevailing at the time of default. As well as a fixed collection costs calculated on the sums outstanding as set out as follows: £40.00 for £0.00 to £1,000.00, £70.00 for £1,000.00 to £10,000.00, £100.00 for £10,000.00 and above.

Non payment of survey or certificate fees will prevent issue of the certificate and/or annual licence disc. It is illegal to operate commercially without these being on board.

**5. Obligations and Responsibilities**

(a) Client

The Client undertakes to ensure that full instructions are given to MECAL Ltd and are provided in sufficient time to enable the required Services to be performed effectively and efficiently and to procure all necessary access for MECAL Ltd to goods, premises, vessels, installations and transport and to ensure that all appropriate safety measures are taken to provide safe and secure working conditions.

MECAL Ltd shall not be liable for the consequences of late, incomplete, inadequate, inaccurate or ambiguous instructions.

(b) MECAL Ltd

MECAL Ltd shall use reasonable care and skill in the performance of the Services in accordance with sound marine surveying/consulting practice.

 (c) Reporting

MECAL Ltd shall submit a final written Report to the Client following completion of the agreed Services describing MECAL Ltd findings and the condition and/or quality of the object and/or purpose of the assignment, unless otherwise expressly instructed by the Client not to do so.

(d) Confidentiality

MECAL Ltd undertakes not to disclose any information provided in confidence by the Client to any third party and will not permit access to such information by any third party unless the Client expressly grants permission save where required to do so by an order of a competent court of law.

(e) Property

The right of ownership in respect of all original work and records including any information recorded electronically created by MECAL Ltd remains the property of MECAL Ltd.

(f) Conflict of Interest/Qualification

MECAL Ltd shall promptly notify the Client of any matter including conflict of interest or lack of suitable qualifications and experience, which would render it undesirable for MECAL Ltd to continue its involvement with the appointment. The Client shall be responsible for payment of MECAL Ltd Fees up to the date of notification.

**6. Liability**

1. Without prejudice to Clause 7, MECAL Ltd shall be under no liability whatsoever to the Client for any loss, damage, delay or expense of whatsoever nature, whether direct or indirect and howsoever arising **UNLESS** same is proved to have resulted solely from the negligence, gross negligence or wilful default of MECAL Ltd or any of its employees or agents or authorised sub-contractors ,
2. In the event that the Client proves that the loss, damage, delay or expense was caused by the negligence, gross negligence or wilful default of MECAL Ltd aforesaid, then, save where loss, damage, delay or expense has resulted from MECAL Ltd personal act or omission committed with the intent to cause same or recklessly and with knowledge that such loss, damage, delay or expense would probably result, the MECAL Ltd liability for each incident or series of incidents giving rise to a claim or claims shall never exceed a sum calculated on the basis of ten times MECAL Ltd charges or £125,000 whichever is the greater.

 MECAL Ltd shall not be liable for loss of or damage to equipment and other items placed at its disposal by or on behalf of the Client however such loss or damage occurs.

**7. Indemnity**

Except to the extent and solely for the amount therein set out that MECAL Ltd would be liable under Clause 6, the Client hereby undertakes to keep MECAL Ltd and its employees, agents and authorised sub-contractors indemnified and to hold them harmless against all actions, proceedings, claims, demands or liabilities whatsoever or howsoever arising which may be brought against them or incurred or suffered by them, and against and in respect of all costs, loss, damages and expenses (including legal costs and expenses on a full indemnity basis) which MECAL Ltd may suffer or incur (either directly or indirectly) in the course of the Services under these Conditions.

**8. Force Majeure**

Neither MECAL Ltd nor the Client shall, except as otherwise provided in these Conditions, be responsible for any loss, damage, delay or failure in performance hereunder arising or resulting from act of God, act of war, seizure under legal process, quarantine restrictions, strikes, boycotts, lockouts, riots, civil commotions and arrest or restraint of princes, rulers or people.

**9. Insurance**

MECAL Ltd shall effect and maintain, at no cost to the Client, Professional Liability Insurance for such loss and damage for which MECAL Ltd may be held liable to the Client under these terms and conditions.

**10.** MECAL Ltd **Right to Sub-contract**

MECAL Ltd shall have the right to sub-contract any of the Services provided under the Conditions, subject to the Client’s right to object on reasonable grounds. In the event of such a sub-contract MECAL Ltd shall remain fully liable for the due performance of its obligations under these Conditions.

**11.Termination**

MECAL Ltd shall have the right to terminate the contract by giving the Client two (2) weeks’ notice in writing and request that the Client transfers his vessel or vessels to another certifying authority.

**12. Time Bar**

Any claims against MECAL Ltd by the Client shall be deemed to be waived and time barred absolutely upon the expiry of one year from the submission date of the Report to the Client.

**13. Jurisdiction and Law**

These Conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales and any dispute shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.