
Reporting of Occupational Diseases, as required by the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) (Amendment) Regulations 200X

Notice to all Shipowners, Companies, Masters, Medical, Safety, Deck and Engineering Officers and all seafarers on Merchant Ships

PLEASE NOTE:-

Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel and you should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.

Summary

- The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Health and Safety at Work) (Amendment) Regulations 200X introduce a requirement for employers to report occupational diseases which are identified in seafarers serving on UK ships.
- The requirement to report arises only where a written report has been provided by a registered medical practitioner diagnosing a specified disease and confirming that the seafarer has been employed in a relevant work activity.
- The procedure follows that applying to employers on land under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR), but reports should be sent to MCA.
- This MSN details the reporting arrangements and includes at Annex 1 the list of reportable diseases and related work activities.
- The form for reporting a disease is at Annex 2.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention)(Health and Safety at Work)(Amendment) Regulations 200X introduce a legal requirement for employers of seafarers on UK registered merchant vessels to report any case involving any of the occupational diseases specified in the Annex 1 to this Notice and whose work involved on the activities also specified in this Annex. A case is reportable only if the employer has received a written statement prepared by a registered medical practitioner diagnosing the disease as one specified in the Schedule.

1.2 The requirement to report occupational diseases does not apply to pleasure vessels, fishing vessels, warships or naval auxiliaries or ships of traditional build.

2. The System of Reporting

2.1 The diseases which are reportable are listed in Annex 1 to this Notice, which also states the type of work activity which may give rise to exposure to the disease and is accepted as a recognised risk. An employer must report a listed disease when;

- It has been diagnosed in writing by a doctor;
- the seafarer is currently employed in an associated work activity.

A report of a case will not necessarily signify that it is caused by work; it will mean that the seafarer affected works on a job where in general the disease is likely to have an occupational origin.

2.2 Employers have to report cases of diseases only if they have received a written diagnosis from a doctor. A self-employed person need only be informed by a doctor that they are suffering from a listed disease to make it reportable.

2.3 Within the UK, registered medical practitioners are already required to report occupational diseases for land-based workers in line with the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995. The current regulations extend the system to seafarers on UK ships, while providing that reports are made to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA).

2.4 Reports from overseas doctors will also be accepted, provided that the doctor is registered and has a licence to practise in their own country, and would be eligible for registration by the General Medical Council in the UK.

2.5 MCA will retain the reports for statistical purposes and in order to take any appropriate follow up action, such as the issue of guidance or safety alerts, in relation to any particular occupational diseases identified.

3. Submission of disease reports

3.1 When a shipowner receives a report from a doctor identifying a reportable occupational disease, they are required to complete the form at Annex 2 and send the original, together with the a copy of the doctor's report (original to be retained by the company) to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency at the address below .

3.2 A copy of the report is to be held on file by the employer and shipowner for a period of 40 years following submission of the report. Electronic records are permitted. Records may be called upon for inspection by the Secretary of State The reports will be held by the MCA statistical purposes. The MCA will confirm receipt of the information within 5 days, and will do so in writing to the person detailed in part A of the report form.

More Information

Seafarer Safety and Health Branch
Maritime and Coastguard Agency
Bay 1/29
Spring Place
105 Commercial Road
Southampton
SO15 1EG

Tel : +44 (0) 23 8032 9328
Fax : +44 (0) 23 8032 9251
e-mail: mlc@mcga.gov.uk

General Inquiries: 24 Hour Infoline
infoline@mcga.gov.uk
0870 600 6505

MCA Website Address: www.mcga.gov.uk

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REPORTABLE DISEASES

NOTE: List as set out in HSE RIDDOR. Some activities are not applicable to shipping but are retained in the list for completeness

Occupational diseases

The following diseases are reportable when the affected person's work involves one of the specified activities.

Please quote the disease name and number when reporting.

Conditions due to physical agents and physical demands of work

1	Inflammation, ulceration or malignant disease of the skin due to ionising radiations. <i>Activity:</i> Work with ionising radiation.
2	Malignant disease of the bones due to ionising radiation. <i>Activity:</i> Work with ionising radiation.
3	Blood dyscrasia due to ionising radiation. <i>Activity:</i> Work with ionising radiation.
4	Cataract due to electromagnetic radiation. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to electromagnetic radiation (including radiant heat).
5	Decompression illness. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving breathing gases at increased pressure (including diving).
6	Barotrauma resulting in lung or other organ damage. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving breathing gases at increased pressure (including diving).
7	Dysbaric osteonecrosis. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving breathing gases at increased pressure (including diving).
8	Cramp of the hand or forearm due to repetitive movements. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving prolonged period of handwriting, typing or other repetitive movements of the fingers, hand or arm.
9	Subcutaneous cellulitis of the hand (beat hand). <i>Activity:</i> Physically demanding work causing severe or prolonged friction or pressure on hand.
10	Bursitis or subcutaneous cellulitis arising at or about the knee due to severe or prolonged external friction or pressure at or about the knee (beat knee). <i>Activity:</i> Physically demanding work causing severe or prolonged friction or pressure at or about the knee.
11	Bursitis or subcutaneous cellulitis arising at or about the elbow due to severe or prolonged external friction or pressure at or about the elbow (beat elbow). <i>Activity:</i> Physically demanding work causing severe or prolonged friction or pressure at or about the elbow.
12	Traumatic inflammation of the tendons of the hand or forearm or of the associated tendon sheaths. <i>Activity:</i> Physically demanding work, frequent or repeated movements, constrained postures or extension or flexion of the hand or wrist.
13	Carpal tunnel syndrome. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving the use of hand held vibrating tools.
14	Hand-arm vibration syndrome. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving:

	<p>(a) the use of chain saws, brush cutters or hand-held or hand-led circular saws in forestry or woodworking;</p> <p>(b) the use of hand-held rotary tools in grinding material or in sanding or polishing metal;</p> <p>(c) the holding of material being grounded or metal being sanded or polished by rotary tools;</p> <p>(d) the use of hand-held percussive metal-working tools or the holding of metal being worked upon by percussive tools in connection with riveting, caulking, chipping, hammering, fettling or swaying;</p> <p>(e) the use of hand-held powered percussive drills or hand-held powered percussive hammers in mining, quarrying or demolition, or on roads or footpaths (including road construction); or</p> <p>(f) the holding of material being worked upon by pounding machines in shoe manufacture.</p>
	<i>Infections due to biological agents</i>
15	<p>Anthrax.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i></p> <p>(a) work involving handling infected animals, their products or packaging containing infected material; or</p> <p>(b) work on infected sites;</p>
16	<p>Brucellosis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with:</p> <p>(a) animals or their carcasses (including any parts thereof) infected by brucella or the untreated products of same; or</p> <p>(b) laboratory specimens or vaccines of or containing brucella.</p>
17	<p>(a) Avian chlamydiosis</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with birds infected with chlamydia psittaci, or the remains or untreated products of such birds.</p> <p>(b) Ovine chlamydiosis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with sheep infected with chlamydia psittaci or the remains or untreated products of such sheep.</p>
18	<p>Hepatitis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with:</p> <p>(a) human blood or human blood products; or</p> <p>(b) any source of viral hepatitis.</p>
19	<p>Legionellosis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work on or near cooling systems which are located in the workplace and use water; or work on hot water service systems located in the workplace which are likely to be a source of contamination.</p>
20	<p>Leptospirosis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i></p> <p>(a) work in places which are liable to be infested by rats, field mice, voles or other small mammals;</p> <p>(b) work at dog kennels or involving the care or handling of dogs; or</p> <p>(c) work involving contact with bovine animals or their meat products or pigs or their meat products.</p>
21	<p>Lyme disease.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to ticks (including in particular, work by forestry workers, rangers, dairy farmers, game keepers and other persons engaged in countryside management).</p>
22	<p>Q fever.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with animals, their remains or their untreated products.</p>

23	Rabies. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving handling or contact with infected animals.
24	Streptococcus suis. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with pigs infected with streptococcus suis, or with the carcasses, products or residues of pigs so affected.
25	Tetanus. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving contact with soil likely to be contaminated by animals.
26	Tuberculosis. <i>Activity:</i> Work with persons, animals, human or animal remains or any other material which might be a source of infection.
27	Any infection reliably attributed to the performance of the work specified in the entry opposite hereto. <i>Activity:</i> Work with micro-organisms; work with live or dead human beings in the course of providing any treatment or service in conducting any investigation involving exposure to blood or body fluids; work with animals or any potentially infected material derived from any of the above.
<i>Conditions due to substances</i>	
28	Poisonings by any of the following (a) acrylamide monomer; (b) arsenic or one of its components; (c) benzene or a homologue of benzene; (d) beryllium or one of its compounds; (e) cadmium or one of its compounds; (f) carbon disulphide; (g) diethylene dioxide (dioxan); (h) ethylene oxide; (i) lead or one of its compounds; (j) manganese or one of its compounds; (k) mercury or one of its compounds; (l) methyl bromide; (m) nitrochlorobenzene, or a nitro- or amino- or chloro- derivative of benzene or of a homologue of benzene; (n) oxides of nitrogen; (o) phosphorous or one of its compounds. <i>Activity:</i> Any activity.
29	Cancer of a bronchus or lung. <i>Activity:</i> (a) work in or about a building where nickel is produced by decomposition of a gaseous nickel compound or where any industrial process which is ancillary or incidental to that process is carried on; or (b) work involving exposure to bis(chloromethyl) ether or any electrolytic chromium processes (excluding passivation) which involve hexavalent chromium compounds, chromate production or zinc chromate pigment manufacture.
30	Primary carcinoma of the lung where there is accompanying evidence of silicosis. <i>Activity:</i> Any occupation in: (a) glass manufacture; (b) sandstone tunnelling or quarrying; (c) the pottery industry; (d) metal ore mining; (e) slate quarrying or slate production; (f) clay mining; (g) the use of siliceous materials as abrasives; (h) foundry work;

	(i) granite tunnelling or quarrying; or (j) stone cutting or masonry.
31	Cancer of the urinary tract. <i>Activity:</i> (1) Work involving exposure to any of the following substances: (a) beta-naphthylamine or methylene-bis-orthochloroaniline; (b) diphenyl substituted by at least one nitro or primary amino group or by at least one nitro and primary amino group (including benzidine); (c) any of the substances mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) above if further ring substituted by halogeno, methyl or methoxy groups, but not by other groups; or (d) the salts of any substances mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) above. (2) The manufacture of auramine or magenta.
32	Bladder cancer. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to aluminium smelting using the Soderberg process.
33	Angiosarcoma of the liver. <i>Activity:</i> (a) work in or about machinery or apparatus used for the polymerisation of vinyl chloride monomer, a process which, for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, comprises all operations up to and including the drying of the slurry produced by the polymerisation and the packaging of the dried product; or (b) work in a building or structure in which any part of the process referred to in the foregoing sub-paragraph takes place.
34	Peripheral neuropathy. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving the use of handling of or exposure to the fumes of or vapour containing n-hexane or methyl n-butyl ketone.
35	Chrome ulceration of: (a) the nose or throat; or (b) the skin of the hands or forearm. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to chromic acid or to any other chromium compound.
36	Folliculitis. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to mineral oil, tar, pitch or arsenic.
37	Acne. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to mineral oil, tar, pitch or arsenic.
38	Skin cancer. <i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to mineral oil, tar, pitch or arsenic.
39	Pneumoconiosis (excluding asbestosis). <i>Activity:</i> (1) (a) The mining, quarrying or working of silica rock or the working of quartzose sand, any dry deposit or residue of silica or any dry admixture containing such materials (including any activity in which any of the aforesaid operations are carried out incidentally to the mining or quarrying of other minerals or to the manufacture of articles containing crushed or ground silica rock); or (b) the handling of any of the materials specified in the foregoing sub-paragraph in or incidentally to any of the operations mentioned therein or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such operations. (2) The breaking, crushing or grinding of flint, the working or handling of broken, crushed or ground flint or materials containing such flint or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such operations. (3) Sand blasting by means of compressed air with the use of quartzose sand or crushed silica rock or flint or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such sand blasting. (4) Work in a foundry or the performance of, or substantial exposure to the dust arising

	<p>from, any of the following operations:</p> <p>(a) the freezing of steel castings from adherent siliceous substance; or</p> <p>(b) the freezing of metal castings from adherent siliceous substance:</p> <p>(i) by blasting with an abrasive propelled by compressed air, steam or a wheel; or</p> <p>(ii) by the use of power driven tools.</p> <p>(5) The manufacture of china or earthenware (including sanitary earthenware, electrical earthenware and earthenware tiles) and any activity involving substantial exposure to the dust arising therefrom.</p> <p>(6) The grinding of mineral graphite or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such grinding.</p> <p>(7) The dressing of granite or any igneous rock by masons, the crushing of such materials or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such operations.</p> <p>(8) The use of preparation for use of an abrasive wheel or substantial exposure to the dust arising therefrom.</p> <p>(9) (a) Work underground in any mine in which one of the objects of the mining operations is the getting of any material;</p> <p>(b) the working or handling above ground at any coal or tin mine of any material extracted therefrom or any operation incidental thereto;</p> <p>(c) the trimming of coal in any ship, barge, lighter, dock or harbour or at any wharf of quay; or</p> <p>(d) the sawing, splitting or dressing of slate or any operation incidental thereto.</p> <p>(10) The manufacture of work incidental to the manufacture of carbon electrodes by an industrial undertaking for use in the electrolytic extraction of aluminium from aluminium oxide and any activity involving substantial exposure to the dust therefrom.</p> <p>(11) Boiler scaling or substantial exposure to the dust arising therefrom.</p>
40	<p>Byssinosis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> The spinning or manipulation of raw or waste cotton or flax or the weaving of cotton or flax, carried out in each case in a room in a factory, together with any other work carried out in such a room.</p>
41	<p>Mesothelioma.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i></p> <p>(a) the working or handling of asbestos or any admixture of asbestos;</p> <p>(b) the manufacture or repair of asbestos textiles or other articles containing or composed of asbestos;</p> <p>(c) the cleaning of machinery or plant used in any of the foregoing operations and of any chambers, fixtures and appliances for the collection of asbestos dust; or</p> <p>(d) substantial exposure to the dust arising from any of the foregoing operations.</p>
42	<p>Lung cancer.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i></p> <p>(a) The working or handling of asbestos or any admixture of asbestos;</p> <p>(b) the manufacture or repair of asbestos textiles or other articles containing or composed of asbestos;</p> <p>(c) the cleaning of any machinery or plant used in any of the foregoing operations and of any chambers, fixtures and appliances for the collection of asbestos dust; or</p> <p>(d) substantial exposure to the dust arising from any of the foregoing operations.</p>
43	<p>Asbestosis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i></p> <p>(a) The working or handling of asbestos or any admixture of asbestos;</p> <p>(b) the manufacture or repair of asbestos textiles or other articles containing or composed of asbestos;</p> <p>(c) the cleaning of any machinery or plant used in any of the foregoing operations and of any chambers, fixtures and appliances for the collection of asbestos dust; or</p> <p>(d) substantial exposure to the dust arising from any of the foregoing operations.</p>

44	<p>Cancer of the nasal cavity or associated air sinuses.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1(a) Work in or about a building where wooden furniture is manufactured; (b) work in a building used for the manufacture of footwear or components of footwear made wholly or partly of leather or fibre board; or (c) work at a place used wholly or mainly for the repair of footwear made wholly or partly of leather or fibre board.
45	<p>Occupational dermatitis.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to any of the following agents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) epoxy resin systems; (b) formaldehyde and its resins; (c) metalworking fluids; (d) chromate (hexavalent and derived from trivalent chromium); (e) cement, plaster or concrete; (f) acrylates and methacrylates; (g) colophony (rosin) and its modified products; (h) glutaraldehyde; (i) mercaptobenzothiazole, thiurams, substituted paraphenylenediamines and related rubber processing chemicals; (j) biocides, anti-bacterials, preservatives or disinfectants; (k) organic solvents; (l) antibiotics and other pharmaceuticals and therapeutic agents; (m) strong acids, strong alkalis, strong solutions (eg brine) and oxidising agents including domestic bleach or reducing agents; (n) hairdressing products including in particular dyes, shampoos, bleaches and permanent waving solutions; (o) soaps and detergents; (p) plants and plant derived material including in particular the daffodil, tulip and chrysanthemum families, the parsley family (carrots, parsnips, parsley and celery), garlic and onion, hardwoods and the pine family; (q) fish, shell-fish or meat; (r) sugar or flour; or (s) any other known irritant or sensitising agent including in particular any chemical bearing the warning 'may cause sensitisation by skin contact' or 'irritating to the skin'.
46	<p>Extrinsic alveolitis (including farmer's lung).</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Exposure to moulds, fungal spores or heterologous proteins during work in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) agriculture, horticulture, forestry, cultivation of edible fungi or malt-working; (b) loading, unloading or handling mouldy vegetable matter or edible fungi whilst same is being stored; (c) caring for or handling birds; or (d) handling bagasse.
47	<p>Occupational asthma.</p> <p><i>Activity:</i> Work involving exposure to any of the following agents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) isocyanates; (b) platinum salts; (c) fumes or dust arising from the manufacture, transport or use of hardening agents (including epoxy resin curing agents) based on phthalic anhydride, tetrachlorophthalic anhydride, trimellitic anhydride or triethylene-tetramine; (d) fumes arising from the use of rosin as a soldering flux; (e) proteolytic enzymes; (f) animals including insects and other arthropods used for the purposes of research or education or in laboratories; (g) dusts arising from the sowing, cultivation, harvesting, drying, handling, milling, transport or storage of barley, oats, rye, wheat or maize or the handling, milling,

- transport or storage of meal or flour made therefrom;
- (h) antibiotics;
- (i) cimetidine;
- (j) wood dust;
- (k) ispaghula;
- (l) castor bean dust;
- (m) ipecacuanha;
- (n) azodicarbonamide;
- (o) animals including insects and other arthropods (whether in their larval forms or not) used for the purposes of pest control or fruit cultivation or the larval forms of animals used for the purposes of research or education or in laboratories;
- (p) glutaraldehyde;
- (q) persulphate salts or henna;
- (r) crustaceans, or fish or products arising from these in the food processing industry;
- (s) reactive dyes;
- (t) soya bean;
- (u) tea dust;
- (v) green coffee bean dust;
- (w) fumes from stainless steel welding;
- (x) any other sensitising agent, including in particular any chemical bearing the warning 'may cause sensitisation by inhalation'.

Diseases additionally reportable in respect of offshore workplaces.

48	Chickenpox.
49	Cholera.
50	Diphtheria.
51	Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary).
52	Acute encephalitis.
53	Erysipelas.
54	Food poisoning.
55	Legionellosis.
56	Malaria.
57	Measles.
58	Meningitis.
59	Meningococcal septicaemia (without meningitis).
60	Mumps.
61	Paratyphoid fever.
62	Plague.
63	Acute poliomyelitis.
64	Rabies.
65	Rubella.
66	Scarlet fever.
67	Tetanus.
68	Tuberculosis.
69	Typhoid fever.
70	Typhus.

71	Viral haemorrhagic fevers.
72	Viral hepatitis.



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE REPORT FORM

FOR UK REGISTERED MERCHANT SHIPS

The Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention)(Health and Safety at Work) (amendment) Regulations 20XX require shipowners of UK registered vessels to complete and submit this form to the MCA when seafarers are diagnosed by a medical practitioner with a occupational disease, whilst employed and as specified also in Annex 1 of MSN XXX.

[One form should be completed for each disease]

Please submit the completed form to : Maritime and Coastguard Agency
 Bay 1/29 Spring Place
 105 Commercial Road
 Southampton
 SO15 1EG

Fax : 02380 329 251

Email: mlc@mcga.gov.uk

This form must be completed by the shipowner or a responsible person.

Completing and signing this form does not constitute an admission of liability of any kind, either by the person making the report or any other person.

PART A

About you

1. What is your full name?

2. What is your job title?

3. What is your telephone number?

About your organisation

4. What is the organisation's name?

5. What is the land based address and postcode?

6. What is the name of the vessel on which the seafarer is currently working?

7. Does the affected person usually work aboard this vessel?

Yes	No
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8. What type of vessel is it?
 (Reference list below)

- (a) Passenger /Cruise / Ferry
- (b) Container / Cargo
- (c) Tanker
- (d) Offshore / Supply / Offshore support
- (e) Research
- (f) Standby
- (g) Tug / Support / Maintenance
- (h) Yacht
- (i) Other – Please specify

9. Where does it operate from and to?

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8. What s the name and the address of the doctor?

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PART B

About the affected person

1. What is their Rank

--

2. What is their job title?

--

3. What is their date of birth?

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
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4. Are they

Male

--

Female

--

5. Is the affected person *(tick one of the following boxes)*

--

Employed

--

Self employed

--

Trainee / Cadet
(Give details below)

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PART C

The disease you are reporting

6. Please give:
the name of the disease, and the type of work it is associated with and quote the RIDDOR reference number (See Annex 1 of MSN XXXX)

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D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
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PART D

Describing the work that led to the disease

Please describe any work done by the affected person which might have resulted in the disease.

Give as much detail as you can for instance if the disease is thought to have been caused by exposure to an agent at work (eg a specific chemical) please say what the agent is, consider also environmental conditions, the part played by any people, the name and type of machinery involved and any other information which is relevant.

Give your description here :

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(Part D contd.)

PART E

Your signature

Your signature

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Date:

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
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If returning by post / fax, please ensure this form is signed, alternatively, if returning by email, please type your name in the signature box.

For official use

Ref No.

Entered by

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