

Ship Inspection Management System (SIMS)

What's New in Version 5?

12th March 2009

The Ship Inspection Management System consists of a web-based database of ship inspections carried out by Inspectors of Port Health Authorities using a mobile PDA device to input data. Inspections are entered onto the PDA onboard ship or back at the office and authentic certificates such as the Ship Inspection Report and Ship Sanitation Certificate, along with supporting documents (which enhance the information on the SSCEC) are printed either from a mobile bluetooth printer onboard ship or from the SIMS website at your office PC.

These documents are intended to advise you of changes in the software, version by version. If you need any assistance or have any questions please contact SIM support on **0845 009 3103** or email support@apha-sims.com.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS

1. You can now add free text comments to each area of an inspection, and you can choose whether to include these on the Ship Inspection Report, supplementary information or not. Standard Phrases remain as they were, with standard text and the option of providing options form a menu of free text in certain circumstances. With the addition of text comments, we believe this gives maximum flexibility whilst retaining central reporting
2. If a comment is entered, 'See Attached Report' is inserted on the relevant line on the SSCEC/SSCC, and the full text of the comment on the Ship Inspection Report.
3. You can now choose to advise the next port of call, Agent, Owner and your own port by email/SMS by selecting each individual option. You can also request a email read-receipt.
4. 6 new Standard Questions and Phrases have been added to Food/Waste and Pest Control sections. If you know of any others required please contact support.
5. If you answer a question negatively, you are now forced to enter at least one phrase before you continue.
6. Support added for Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland regulations, the correct text is shown on the Ship Inspection Report and the SSCEC/SSCC. You need to make sure your port entry in the ports database shows the correct country, then the system will apply the correct text automatically.
7. If an inspection has been submitted to the SIMS database, you can no longer edit or delete it from your PDA to ensure all certificates issued remain as originally produced. If this causes any problems, please contact support for help.
8. For security reasons, PDA's now have to be 'authorized' for use via the SIMS server. This is automatic but should you lose your PDA or it is stolen, we can disable access to SIMS Database.
9. A number of fixes have been made, where the user was getting unusual error messages and problems saving data. Also, a number of areas where date formatting was incorrect has now been fixed. Also, saving captains name and other ship data, if amended was not saving properly—this is now fixed.
10. The officers name is now added to the end of the signature line and area for date.
11. New items of Vehicle and Animal feed added to cargo menu options.

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CHANGES/ADDITIONS CONTINUED

12. On the SSCEC/SSCC the unladen text line now shows as laden with the details or 'unladen'.
13. Additional help screens throughout the system to assist the user with information about that screen.
14. The term SEARCH had been changed to FIND so we can get more commands along the bottom line (before the word HELP showed as 'HE') In the FIND screen, you can now find records by either partial search of 'whole word' searches. This means you can search for a specific record if you know what you are looking for or enter a partial search and the system will display all matches.
15. In the FIND screen, you can now find records by either partial search of 'whole word' searches. This means you can search for a specific record if you know what you are looking for or enter a partial search and the system will display all matches.
16. On the Ship Inspection Report, a positive selection is shown with a tick '/' negative with a 'X' to avoid any doubt. These show in a number of places on the Ship Inspection Report.
17. We have now added support in SIMS for corporate proxy servers. If you have a proxy server you may of experienced connection problems. This is a security issue by your PHA's IT system, not SIMS. In the options screen, you can now enter proxy login details and the connection will take this into account. Please note, it is possible to connect with earlier versions of SIMS but the proxy settings have to be set by your IT Department. For further assistance you or your IT dept can contact us for assistance and help getting connected.
18. All relevant databases now have a country field, so you can search by country.
19. The auto-save feature has been temporarily disabled as it was causing some problems. We are currently working on this feature and will re-install it as soon as possible. In the meantime we suggest you save your Inspection regular.
20. A number of smaller changes such as description changes and others to make using the system easier to undertand and input streamlined. We support 'plain English speaking!' as much as possible.

Would users how have requested a change to the system please check it is working, and let us know if there are any problems.

If you have any suggestions for the next version, please let us know by visiting the website www.apha-sims.com click on **SUPPORT** then **MAKE A SUGGESTION**

Thank you for using SIMS

SIMS Support Team

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