

Bali to give visiting superyachts a warm welcome thanks to new Indonesia PIB regulations

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In a meeting on the 8th of December 2011 in Bali with Asia Pacific Superyachts Indonesia, Ms Nyoman Rini, Head of Customs for Benoa Harbour, gave her full support to the new Indonesia PIB regulations, welcoming in a new era for superyachts visiting [Indonesia](#).



Indonesia Custom & Asia Pacific Superyachts Team

Under the old laws, a boat could be made to pay a 'Bond' to Customs to ensure no commercial ventures were undertaken while they visited Indonesia. The terms of this – notably the return of said bond on departure – were unclear and many captains and owners were put off by the 'Bond' and conditions. But as of the 3 December, the Bond is no longer necessary and the role of Customs in dealing with inbound vessels has been minimized.

APS has always maintained a close working relationship with the Customs departments around Indonesia to find amicable solutions for the many yachts they service in Indonesia each year. In moving forward to talk about the new regulations with the new face of Benoa Customs, APS GM Richard Lofthouse met with Ms Rini to discuss her understanding of the new attitude towards visiting yachts and how it would affect APS clients in 2012.

The GM reports Ms Rini exudes Balinese charm and has a positive outlook and attitude. He noted she is friendly and well versed in the rules and regulations and was quick to acknowledge the role APS plays in bringing many foreign yachts into Indonesia, including, in 2011 the two biggest motor yachts and the biggest sailing yacht to visit the country. Ms Rini made it clear that her role as Head of Customs was to help grow the number of visiting yachts by minimizing Customs interference with inbound vessels.

Ms Rini stressed that the main role of Customs was to ensure that visiting yachts were not operating commercially, nor bringing goods (contraband or otherwise) into the country for commercial gain. However, unlike in the past only a letter of guarantee from a representative of the vessel is required and talk of a bond is consigned to the dustbin of history.

Also encouraging was her reinforcement of the new rule which allows the boat to make PIB (temporary import) in first port of call and subsequently make PEB (export) at last port of call. Formerly, this could all only happen at the port of entry, making it highly restrictive to a vessel's movements. By allowing the import and export to happen anywhere in Indonesia, this change alone truly opens up this amazingly diverse cruising ground for yachts to explore at will.

Following the meeting, Richard Lofthouse, commented, "It was an enlightening and enjoyable to meet with Ms Rini", adding, "She welcomed us and talked openly and frankly, showing a first rate understanding of the new rules and regulations as well as expressing a constructive attitude towards helping to grow the numbers of superyachts coming to [Indonesia](#)."

The GM reported that by extending a more supportive and helpful Customs welcome than in the past, this in turn allows [Asia Pacific Superyachts](#) to move forward with much greater confidence into a new era for Indonesia as a welcoming superyacht cruising destination. The APS GM concluded, "This appears to be a major sign that Indonesia is coming of age and recognizing the true potential of Marine Tourism in her waters. We are very excited and looking forward to a great 2012."

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