



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 142 of 17th July 2013

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Validity of Radio communication Equipment
Reference	IMO Circular, MSC.1/Circ. 1460

Guidance on the Validity of Radio communications Equipment Installed and Used on Ships

IMO has issued MSC.1/Circ.1460 including Guidance on the Validity of Radio communications Equipment Installed and Used on Ships.

The World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 made extensive changes to appendices 17 and 18 of the RR. Whilst these changes do not affect the GMDSS, they do affect the use of other frequencies that would be used by services such as Port Operations and VTS.

The RR provisions apply as from the dates of application indicated in article 59 and resolution 98 of the RR. Timely action is required by ships to ensure that radiocommunication equipment complies with the RR. Replacement of operating hardware may be necessary to meet the changed requirements.

According to the Performance standards for shipborne VHF radio installations capable of communication and digital selective calling (resolution A.803(19)), the equipment should comply with the Radio Regulations.

Attention is drawn to MSC.1/Circ.1389, which contains Guidance on procedures for updating shipborne navigation and communication equipment, and that updates to application software and firmware to meet changes in IMO and ITU regulatory requirements were needed.

To ensure GMDSS communication capability, HF radiocommunication equipment capable of operating narrow-band direct printing (NBDP) should be updated so that following the first radio survey after 1 January 2017 it meets the channelling arrangements reflected in sections II and III of part B in appendix 17 of the RR.

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Radiocommunication equipment, other than HF radiocommunication equipment capable of operating NBDP, does not necessarily need to be updated by the first radio survey after 1 January 2017, but may be updated appropriately in accordance with the decisions of the Administration.

Member Governments have to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate national authorities and all other parties concerned.

REFERENCES:

- **IMO Circular, MSC.1/Circ. 1460**

ATTACHMENTS: No.

Kindest Regards,

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