

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR N° SOL 031

International Convention for the Safety of Life at sea, 1974, as amended; Chapter V - Safety of navigation, Regulation 19-1

Long Range Identification and Tracking

IMO Resolutions: MSC.202(81), MSC.263(84), IMO Circulars: MSC.I/Circ. 1295,1296,1297,1298,1299

TO: SHIPOWNERS SHIPS' OPERATORS & MANAGERS AND MASTERS

APPLICABLE TO:

- Passenger ships, including High-Speed passenger crafts
- Cargo ships, including high-speed crafts of 300 GT and upwards.
- Mobile offshore drilling units
- Commercial Yachts of 300 GT and upwards.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: Date of present Circular

Monaco, 20th February, 2009

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Maritime Administration would like to highlight the importance to have the LRIT tests completed and certified as soon as possible instead of leaving the testing until last minute.

The trend seems to be that Authorised Testing Service Providers accepted by this Administration are receiving more and more last minute requests for LRIT tests for ships when the radio service surveyor/RO's surveyor is scheduled to be on board soon or at times whilst he is on board.

Please be reminded that it takes 48 hours to complete an LRIT Conformance Test and the pass rate is approximately 78%. The due dates for LRIT Testing and issuance of Conformance Test Report are mentioned in our Circular SOL 030.

The Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Maritime Administration urges all Shipowners, Ship's Operators/Managers and Masters to early proceed with LRIT testing.