



ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR N° SOL 065 – Rev. 1

NEW IMO REQUIREMENTS FOR SHIPS WITH GMDSS HF NARROW-BAND DIRECT PRINTING (NBDP) EQUIPMENT INSTALLED ON BOARD

TO: **SHIPOWNERS, SHIPS' OPERATORS AND MANAGERS, MASTERS, FLAG STATE SURVEYORS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS**

APPLICABLE TO: All ships

EFFECTIVE AS FROM: Date of this Circular

17th January 2017

The World Radio communication Conference 2012 made extensive changes to appendices 17 and 18 of the Radio Regulations.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has issued new regulations of sections II and III, Part B in Appendix 17 of 2012 Radio Regulations concerning the revised frequencies and channelling arrangements for the maritime HF bands.

Considering that incompatibility may exist between radio communication equipment installed on ships, and the revised frequencies and channelling arrangements for the maritime HF and VHF bands as contained in appendices 17 and 18 to the Radio Regulations (RR) – Edition 2012, the Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety second session (12th to 21st June 2013), has approved the Guidance on the validity of radio communication equipment installed and used on ships (MSC.1/Circ. 1460) requiring that the existing HF NBDP equipment be updated, so that it complies with the Radio Regulations in force.

Most of the existing equipment is deemed to be compliant with the new requirements. However, in some cases the software equipment will have to be updated. If the existing equipment is unable to comply with the Radio Regulations, it will need to be replaced, and the newly installed HF NBDP equipment should be suitably type approved.

To ensure GMDSS communication compliance, the HF NBDP radio communication equipment installed onboard ships should be updated (or replaced) so that following the first radio survey after 1st January 2017 it meets with the channelling arrangement reflected in sections II and III of part B in appendix 17 of the 2012 Radio Regulations.

During IMO meeting MSC 97, amendments to the 'Guidance on the validity of radiocommunication equipment installed and used on ships' (MSC.1/Circ.1460) were proposed, with the intention of avoiding any unnecessary updates to equipment that is already capable of operating NBDP, in accordance with the outcome of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2012.

The IMO Committee has now agreed to amend the date from 1st January 2017

to **1st January 2024** with the intention of avoiding any unnecessary updates of HF radiocommunication equipment that is already capable of operating NBDP.

Annex to this Circular:

- The validity of radiocommunication equipment installed and used on ships (MSC.1/Circ.1460)
- Sections II and III of part B in appendix 17 of the Radio Regulations (2012)
- MSC.1/Circ.1460/Rev.1

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MSC.1/Circ.1460
24 June 2013

**GUIDANCE ON THE VALIDITY OF RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT
INSTALLED AND USED ON SHIPS**

- 1 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety-second session (12 to 21 June 2013), taking into account the recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue at its seventeenth session (21 to 25 January 2013), having recognized concerns that incompatibility may exist between radiocommunication equipment installed on ships, and the revised frequencies and channelling arrangements for the maritime HF and VHF bands as contained in appendices 17 and 18 to the Radio Regulations (RR) – Edition 2012, approved this *Guidance on the validity of radiocommunications equipment installed and used on ships*.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.
- 5 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.
- 6 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.
- 7 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.
- 8 Member Governments are invited to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate national authorities and all other parties concerned.



Section II -- Narrow-band direct-printing telegraphy (paired frequencies)

- 1 Each coast station which uses paired frequencies is assigned one or more frequency pairs from the following series; each pair consists of a transmitting and a receiving frequency.
- 2 The speed of the narrow-band direct-printing telegraphy and data systems shall not exceed 100 Bd for FSK and 200 Bd for PSK.

Table of frequencies for two-frequency operation by coast stations (kHz)

Channel No.	4 MHz band		6 MHz band		8 MHz band	
	Transmit	Receive	Transmit	Receive	Transmit	Receive
1	4210.5	4172.5	6314.5	6263	8376.5	8376.5
2	4211	4173	6315	6263.5	8417	8377
3	4211.5	4173.5	6315.5	6264	8417.5	8377.5
4	4212	4174	6316	6264.5	8418	8378
5	4212.5	4174.5	6316.5	6265	8418.5	8378.5
6	4213	4175	6317	6265.5	8419	8379
7	4213.5	4175.5	6317.5	6266	8419.5	8379.5
8	4214	4176	6318	6266.5	8420	8380
9	4214.5	4176.5	6318.5	6267	8420.5	8380.5
10	4215	4177	6319	6267.5	8421	8381
11	4177.5	4177.5	6268	6268	8421.5	8381.5
12	4215.5	4178	6319.5	6268.5	8422	8382
13	4216	4178.5	6320	6269	8422.5	8382.5
14			6320.5	6269.5	8423	8383
15					8423.5	8383.5

Table of frequencies for two-frequency operation by coast stations (kHz)

Channel No.	12 MHz band		16 MHz band (end)		18/19 MHz band (end)	
	Transmit	Receive	Transmit	Receive	Transmit	Receive
1	12 579.5	12 477	16 807	16 683.5		
2	12 580	12 477.5	16 807.5	16 684		
3	12 580.5	12 478	16 808	16 684.5		
4	12 581	12 478.5	16 808.5	16 685		
5	12 581.5	12 479	16 809	16 685.5		
6	12 582	12 479.5	16 809.5	16 686		
7	12 582.5	12 480	16 810	16 686.5	19 684	18 873.5
8	12 583	12 480.5	16 810.5	16 687	19 684.5	18 874
9	12 583.5	12 481	16 811	16 687.5	19 685	18 874.5
10	12 584	12 481.5	16 811.5	16 688	19 685.5	18 875
11	12 584.5	12 482	16 812	16 688.5	19 686	18 875.5
12	12 585	12 482.5	16 812.5	16 689	19 686.5	18 876
13	12 585.5	12 483	16 813	16 689.5	19 687	18 876.5
14	12 586	12 483.5	16 813.5	16 690	19 687.5	18 877
15	12 586.5	12 484	16 814	16 690.5	19 688	18 877.5
16	12 587	12 484.5	16 814.5	16 691	19 688.5	18 878
17	12 587.5	12 485	16 815	16 691.5	19 689	18 878.5
18	12 588	12 485.5	16 815.5	16 692	19 689.5	18 879
19	12 588.5	12 486	16 816	16 692.5	19 690	18 879.5
20	12 589	12 486.5	16 816.5	16 693	19 690.5	18 880
21	12 589.5	12 487	16 817	16 693.5		
22	12 590	12 487.5	16 817.5	16 694		
23	12 590.5	12 488	16 818	16 694.5		
24	12 591	12 488.5	16 695	16 695		
25	12 591.5	12 489	16 818.5	16 695.5		
26	12 592	12 489.5	16 819	16 696		
27	12 592.5	12 490	16 819.5	16 696.5		
28	12 593	12 490.5	16 820	16 697		
29	12 593.5	12 491	16 820.5	16 697.5		
30	12 594	12 491.5	16 821	16 698		
31	12 594.5	12 492	16 821.5	16 698.5		
32	12 595	12 492.5				
33	12 595.5	12 493				
34	12 596	12 493.5				
35	12 596.5	12 494				
36	12 597	12 494.5				
37	12 597.5	12 495				
38	12 598	12 495.5				
39	12 598.5	12 496				
40	12 599	12 496.5				
41	12 599.5	12 497				
42	12 600	12 497.5				
43	12 600.5	12 498				
44	12 601	12 498.5				
45	12 601.5	12 499				

Table of frequencies for two-frequency operation by coast stations (kHz)

Channel No.	12 MHz band (<i>end</i>)	
	Transmit	Receive
46	12 602	12 499.5
47	12 602.5	12 500
48	12 603	12 500.5
49	12 603.5	12 501
50	12 604	12 501.5
51	12 604.5	12 502
52	12 605	12 502.5
53	12 605.5	12 503
54	12 606	12 503.5
55	12 606.5	12 504
56	12 607	12 504.5
57	12 607.5	12 505
58	12 608	12 505.5
59	12 608.5	12 506
60	12 609	12 506.5
61	12 609.5	12 507
62	12 610	12 507.5
63	12 610.5	12 508
64	12 611	12 508.5
65	12 611.5	12 509
66	12 612	12 509.5
67	12 612.5	12 510
68	12 613	12 510.5
69	12 613.5	12 511
70	12 614	12 511.5
71	12 614.5	12 512
72	12 615	12 512.5
73	12 615.5	12 513
74	12 616	12 513.5
75	12 616.5	12 514
76	12 617	12 514.5
77	12 617.5	12 515
78	12 618	12 515.5
79	12 618.5	12 516
80	12 619	12 516.5
81	12 619.5	12 517
82	12 620	12 517.5
83	12 620.5	12 518
84	12 621	12 518.5
85	12 621.5	12 519
86	12 622	12 519.5
87	12 520	12 520
88	12 622.5	12 520.5
89	12 623	12 521
90	12 623.5	12 521.5
91	12 624	12 522
92	12 624.5	12 522.5

Table of frequencies for two-frequency operation by coast stations (kHz)

Channel No.	22 MHz band	
	Transmit	Receive
13	22 382.5	22 290.5
14	22 383	22 291
15	22 383.5	22 291.5
16	22 384	22 292
17	22 384.5	22 292.5
18	22 385	22 293
19	22 385.5	22 293.5
20	22 386	22 294
21	22 386.5	22 294.5
22	22 387	22 295
23	22 387.5	22 295.5
24	22 388	22 296
25	22 388.5	22 296.5
26	22 389	22 297

Section III – Narrow-band direct-printing telegraphy (non-paired frequencies)

- 1 One or more frequencies are assigned to each ship station as transmitting frequencies.
- 2 All frequencies appearing in this Appendix may be used for NBDP duplex operation.
- 3 The speed of the narrow-band direct-printing telegraphy and data systems shall not exceed 100 Bd for FSK and 200 Bd for PSK.

Frequency bands								
Channel No.	4 MHz	6 MHz	8 MHz	12 MHz	16 MHz	18/19 MHz	22 MHz	25/26 MHz
1	4 170.5	6 260.25	8 339.25	12 419.25	16 615.25	19 691	22 290	26 101
2	4 171	6 260.75	8 339.75	12 419.75	16 615.75		22 297.5	26 101.5
3	4 171.5	6 321	8 375	12 422	16 616.25		22 298	26 102
4	4 172	6 321.5	8 375.5	12 476.5	16 616.75		22 298.5	26 102.5
5	4 179		8 376	12 655	16 682		22 299	
6	4 179.5			12 655.5	16 682.5		22 443.5	
7	4 180			12 656	16 683			
8				12 656.5				

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MSC.1/Circ.1460/Rev.1
25 November 2016

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2 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its ninety-seventh session (21 to 25 November 2016), while noting that a revision of this circular was anticipated in parallel with the upcoming revision of SOLAS chapter IV, agreed to amend the date from 1 January 2017 to 1 January 2024 (paragraph 7 below), with the intention of avoiding any unnecessary updates of HF radiocommunication equipment that is already capable of operating narrow band direct printing (NBDP).

3 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.

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