

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS

SUBJECT: LRIT IMPLEMENTATION

REFERENCE:

- (a) IMO Resolution MSC.202 (81), Adoption of amendments to the SOLAS, 1974 , as amended, Ch V-19/1.
- (b) IMO Resolution MSC.263 (84), “Revised Performance standards and functional requirements for the LRIT of ships.”
- (c) MSC.1/Circ.1298, MSC.1/Circ.1307 and MSC.1/Circ.1338

APPLICABILITY: all Guyana vessels of 300 GT and upwards, passenger vessels, including high-speed passenger crafts and MODUs.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Circular is to bring to the attention of all concerned the information and instructions to assist in complying with the requirements of SOLAS Regulation V/19-1 - Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT).

BACKGROUND:

LRIT entered into force on 1st January 2008 with a compliance date of 31 December 2008.

LRIT allows the Administration to request and receive position reports from ships flying the Guyana flag from anywhere in the world. It also allows other SOLAS Contracting Governments to request and receive position reports from ships flying the Guyana flag when located in their respective territorial waters and up to a maximum of 1000 nm from their coastlines.

REQUIREMENTS:

General

- 1** The LRIT Regulation requires that ships shall be fitted with equipment capable of automatically transmitting, every six hours and without human intervention on board, the following information:
 - Identity of the ship;
 - Position of the ship; and
 - The date and time of the position.

- 2** The equipment shall also be capable of being configured remotely to transmit the above information at specific intervals from each 24 hours to each 15 minutes.

Applicability

- 3** The LRIT Regulation applies to the following ships engaged on international voyages:
 - Cargo Vessels, including High Speed Craft, equal to or over 300 GT;
 - Passenger ships, including High Speed Passenger craft;
 - Mobile Offshore Drilling Units.

- 4** Vessels constructed before 31 December 2008 must comply with the following timelines:
 - Vessels operating in sea areas A1 + A2 or A1 + A2 + A3 by no later than the first Radio Survey after 31 December 2008;
 - Vessels operating exclusively in sea area A4 by no later than the first radio survey after 1 July 2009. If also operating in A1 + A2 + A3, the above requirement would apply in those areas.

- 5** Those ships operating exclusively in sea area A1 and fitted with an Automatic Identification System (AIS) are exempt from the LRIT Regulation.

Recognised Application Service Provider (Recognised-ASP)

- 1** Pole Star Space Applications Limited (Pole Star) has been appointed by Guyana as its Recognized-ASP, authorised to undertake the LCT, and upon the satisfactory completion, issuance of the associated LCT/R.

Technical and operational requirements

- 2** Regardless of the date of Radio Survey, all Guyana flagged ships subject to

SOLAS V/19-1, as indicated under 'Applicability', must:

- Undertake a LRIT Conformance Test (LCT) and obtain an associated LRIT Conformance Test Report (LCT/R) with Pole Star as soon as possible to avoid any unforeseen delays in compliance,
- Meet transmission requirements by no later than first radio survey after 31st December 2008.

- 3 Additionally, ships flying the Guyana flag are required to hold a Conformance Test Report Certificate issued by Pole Star.
- 4 The Inmarsat C, ISatM2M and Iridium communication services have been approved by the Administration for the transmission of LRIT data.

Required Action by Owners/Operators

- 5 Owners of ships flying the flag of Guyana and subject to the LRIT Regulation will need to register their nominated terminal for a LCT with Pole Star, and upon satisfactory completion separately request issuance of the associated LCT/R. Pole Star contact details are included below.
- 6 Any ship currently holding an LCT/R without an annual validity period specified, or issued by a previously appointed Authorised Testing ASP, will have to obtain a replacement annual LCT/R from Pole Star.
- 7 Following LCT registration, there will be a 48 hour period of testing in line with the test standard contained in MSC.1/Circ.1296. This is necessary to ensure the transmitted data is accurate and reliable, and that the shipborne equipment is of a standard not inferior to that adopted by the IMO. The LCT will be carried out remotely by Pole Star.
- 8 Once the Administration receives a copy of the LCT/R from Pole Star, the associated shipborne equipment will be integrated into the Guyana National LRIT Data Centre and if successful the ship will be considered fully compliant (note that this status is subject to change over time).
- 9 Owners of ships with shipborne equipment that does not support LRIT, or is deemed non-compliant over time, will need to either upgrade the equipment or preferably install 'stand alone' LRIT equipment.
- 10 All ships fitted with LRIT equipment are required to obtain an Annual LCT/R from Pole Star.

Applicable fees are:

- US\$1,000 - Combined LCT and LCT/R fee (applicable for ships that have not completed an initial LCT;
- US\$650 - Annual LCT/R re-issuance.

All LCT and LCT/R costs will be borne by the shipowner unless otherwise notified. The “LCT/R” is the IMO approved title of the actual LRIT certificate issued by Pole Star.

Contacts

- 11** Contact details for the Recognised Application Service Provider, are as follows:

Pole Star Space Applications Limited

Suite 301 - 303

Compass House, 4th

Floor, 22 Redan Place

London W2 4SA United

Kingdom

Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7313 7402

Fax: + 44 (0) 20 7313 7401

Email lrittesting@polestarglobal.com

Website www.polestarglobal.com

- 12** If a ship owner is in any doubt as to the applicability of SOLAS V/19-1 or for further information regarding LRIT compliance please contact the IMSA Guyana, Administration LRIT Coordinator:

Technical Department

e-mail: tech@imsag.org

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