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

SUBJECT: Approved Global Positioning Satellite System (GPSS) Equipment


PURPOSE:

This Marine Notice promulgates procedures required to comply with Regulation 19.2.1.6 of SOLAS Chapter V in regard to approved global positioning satellite system equipment. It supersedes Rev. 10/06 and reflects the deletion of outdated text and an updated reference.

APPLICABILITY:

This Notice applies to all Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) flagged vessels.

REQUIREMENTS:

1.0 SOLAS Regulation V/19.2.1.6 states that:

   All ships irrespective of size shall have a receiver for a global navigation satellite system or a terrestrial radionavigation system, or other means, suitable for use at all times throughout the intended voyage to establish and update the ship’s position by automatic means.

1.1 Vessels constructed on or after 01 July 2002 must be delivered fitted with equipment that will fulfill the requirements of Regulation 19.2.1.6. Vessels constructed before 01 July 2002 must have been fitted with the equipment required in Regulation 19.2.1.6 not later than the first survey after 01 July 2002.

2.0 To comply with SOLAS, newly installed GPSS equipment must meet current International Maritime Organization (IMO) requirements. Previously installed GPSS equipment must meet IMO requirements in effect at the time of installation. GPSS equipment includes such equipment in the following categories:

   - Global positioning system (GPS) equipment;
   - Global navigational satellite system (GLONASS) equipment;

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Notice should be directed to the Maritime Administrator, Republic of the Marshall Islands, c/o Marshall Islands Maritime and Corporate Administrators, Inc., 11495 Commerce Park Drive, Reston, VA 20191-1506 USA. The most current version of all Republic of the Marshall Islands Marine Notices may be found at www.register-iri.com.
• Differential global position system (DGPS) equipment;
• Differential global navigation satellite system (DGLONASS) equipment; and
• Combined global position system and global navigation satellite system (GPS/GLONASS) receiver equipment.

2.1 IMO has published performance standards for each of the aforementioned categories of equipment. Such GPS equipment is to be in accordance with the performance standards in effect at the time of installation.

2.1.1 Performance standards in effect at the time of the publication of this Notice include, but are not limited to:

• IMO Resolution MSC.112(73), Adoption of the Revised Performance Standards for Shipborne Global Positioning System (GPS) Receiver Equipment, adopted 01 December 2000

• IMO Resolution MSC.113(73), Adoption of the Revised Performance Standards for Shipborne GLONASS Receiver Equipment, adopted 01 December 2000

• IMO Resolution MSC.114(73), Adoption of the Revised Performance Standards for Shipborne DGPS and DGLONASS Maritime Radio Beacon Receiver Equipment, adopted 01 December 2000

• IMO Resolution MSC.115(73), Adoption of the Revised Performance Standards for Shipborne Combined GPS/GLONASS Receiver Equipment, adopted 01 December 2000

Additionally, these resolutions make reference to other publications that may assist owners and operators in understanding the performance standards applicable to all such equipment.

3.0 It is incumbent upon owners and operators that they contact their radio service companies to ensure that the GPS equipment currently in use or to be installed complies with SOLAS Regulation V/19.2.1.6 and meets the applicable performance standards, taking into consideration any other relevant IMO guidance.