Marine Safety Advisory No. 34-16

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: USE OF NEW SATELLITE MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Date: 06 October 2016

It has come to the attention of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) that new satellite services are being established and offered to the maritime industry. This Advisory reminds all Owners/Operators of RMI-flagged vessels that any vessels that intend to use any new satellite service must have their ship radio station licenses amended to authorize the use of the frequency ranges offered by that service.

For example, the new constellation of Inmarsat-5 Ka-band satellites is now in place, by which Inmarsat offers broadband mobile communications via their Global Xpress (GX) satellite service which operates within the 17.7 ~ 30.0 gigahertz (GHz) frequency range. Any vessels that intend to use the GX satellite service must have their ship radio station licenses amended to authorize the use of the 17.7 ~ 30.0 GHz frequency range.

The Administrator recommends that interested parties contact their radio providers for any specific information regarding any new satellite service, and then make appropriate and timely arrangements to amend their ship radio station licenses prior to initiation of the use of that satellite service.

Questions regarding this Advisory should be sent to radio@register-iri.com.