



香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Maritime Security - Further Guidance on Ship Security Alert System

To : *Shipowners, Ship Managers, Masters, and Classification Societies*

Summary

This Note supplements HKMSIN No. 11/2004 and provides further guidance on the provision of Ship Security Alert System (SSAS) in respect of survey or verification of installation on board Hong Kong registered ships. It also provides information on the types/models of SSAS that have been tested and accepted by the Marine Department.

1. SOLAS XI-2/6 requires that all ships to which SOLAS Chapter XI-2 applies shall be provided with a SSAS, as follows:
 - a. Ships constructed on or after 1 July 2004;
 - b. passenger ships, including high-speed passenger craft, constructed before 1 July 2004, not later than the first survey of the radio installation after 1 July 2004;
 - c. oil tankers; chemical tankers; gas carriers, bulk carriers and cargo high-speed craft, of 500 gross tonnage and upward constructed before 1 July 2004, not later than the first survey of the radio installation after 1 July 2004; and
 - d. other cargo ships of 500 gross tonnage and upward and mobile offshore drilling units constructed before 1 July 2004, not later than the first survey of the radio installation after 1 July 2006.

2. Since SSAS is a security equipment under SOLAS Chapter XI-2, for Hong Kong registered ships the approval authority of SSAS installation on individual ship rests with the Recognized Security Organization (RSO) of the ship. Companies preparing to install SSAS on their ships are therefore recommended to check in advance with the RSO with regard to survey or verification procedures and requirements of the installation.

3. Section 9.4.15, part A of the ISPS Code provides that the ship security plan (SSP) of a ship shall address the procedures to ensure the inspection, testing, calibration, and maintenance of any security equipment provided on board the ship. Section 9.4.18, part A of the ISPS Code further specifies that the ship security plan (SSP) shall address the procedures, instructions and guidance on the use of the SSAS, including the testing, activation, deactivation and resetting and measures to avoid false alerts. Due to different implementation dates of the SSP and the SSAS, for certain ships the above provisions with regard to SSAS might not have been included in the approved SSP yet. In such cases, companies preparing to install SSAS on their ships should ensure that the SSP is appropriately amended to meet these provisions, and that the amendment is approved by the RSO for incorporating in the SSP. In preparing the amendment to the SSP, reference should be made to Merchant Shipping Information Note No. 11/2004 issued on 7 June 2004, in particular, the need to make prior arrangement with this department if testing of SSAS involves HK MRCC to avoid false alerts.

4. To ensure compatibility of different types/models of SSAS with the reception facilities of HK MRCC, Marine Department has been arranging prototype tests with SSAS manufacturers. So far 5 types/models of SSAS have been formally tested and found satisfactory. These are:

Maker	Model/Type
Furuno	FELCOM 16 SSAS
EuroCom Industries A/S	Sailor H3000M SSA Mini-C
Pole Star Space Application Ltd	PurpleFinder
Globe Wireless	GlobeAlert
JRC	Inmarsat C JUE-75 A &75 C

Marine Department will continue to arrange prototype tests with manufacturers for other types/models of SSAS, the outcome of which will be announced in due course. Apart from prototype tests, any testing of first installation or subsequent routine tests on individual ship should not be directed to HK MRCC to avoid affecting genuine alerts and overloading the MRCC reception facilities. Marine Department will not issue any confirmation on receipt of test alerts for which no prior arrangement has been made. Any enquiry in this respect should be made to:

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