Guidance on the Provisions of Information for Identifying Ships when Transmitting Ship Security Alerts

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

Summary

The Note promulgates MSC.1/Circ.1190, which provides guidance on the provisions of information for identifying a ship when a ship security alert is transmitted.

1. In order to ensure a harmonized and consistent implementation of the provisions of SOLAS regulation XI-2/6 on ship security alert (SSA) systems and of the associated performance standards, the MSC at its 81st session in May 2006 approved the MSC.1/Circ.1190 on Guidance on the Provisions of Information for Identifying Ships when Transmitting Ship Security Alerts.

2. The SSA should include the following information:
   • Name of ship;
   • IMO Ship identification number;
   • Call Sign;
   • Maritime Mobile Service Identity;
   • Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) position (latitude and longitude) of the ship; and
   • Date and time of the GNSS position.

3. A performance/functional test should be carried out to verify that the SSA information specified in paragraph 2 above could be received by the designated recipient according to the following deadlines:
(i) ships constructed before 1 July 2006, not later than the first survey of the radio installation on or after 1 July 2006; and

(ii) ships constructed on or after 1 July 2006, before the ship enters service.

However, if the existing SSA has already been tested in compliance with paragraph 2 above such additional test is not required.

4. A copy of the MSC.1/Circ.1190 is annexed to this Note for easy reference. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators and ship masters are required to observe the Guidance.

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