Revised Guidelines on Annual Testing of 406 MHz Satellite EPIRBs

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

Summary

This Note promulgates the revised Guidelines on annual testing of 406 MHz satellite EPIRBs.

1. The Maritime Safety Committee of the IMO, at its 90th session in May 2012, approved the annexed revised Guidelines of MSC.1/Circ.1040/Rev.1 on the annual testing of 406 MHz satellite EPIRBs, as required by SOLAS regulation IV/15.9.

2. Compared with the previous guidelines, a new item for “checking that the MMSI number encoded in the beacon corresponds with the MMSI number assigned to the ship” has been added to the revised guidelines.

3. The MSC.1/Circ.1040/Rev.1 can be found on the webpage of Marine Department (http://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/msnote/msin.html) as an attachment to this Note.

4. Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Officers and Classification Societies are recommended to follow these guidelines when carrying out annual testing of the 406 MHz satellite EPIRBs.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

20 June 2012