

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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SHIP SECURITY ADVISORY No. 04-22

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Company Security Officers, Recognized Security Organizations

Subject: GLOBAL NAVIGATIONAL SATELLITE SYSTEM INTERFERENCE AND AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM SPOOFING

Date: 28 March 2022

This Ship Security Advisory (SSA) supersedes SSA No. 07-21.

The United States (US) Maritime Administration (MARAD) has issued [US Maritime Advisory No. 2022-005](#) regarding Global Positioning System (GPS) interference in various locations around the world, particularly in the eastern and central Mediterranean Sea. The US Coast Guard has also received [incident reports](#) from the Suez Canal, Cyprus, Malta, and Istanbul, the Persian Gulf near Dammam, Saudi Arabia, and off the coast of Brazil. GPS interference in the maritime domain is also tracked and combatted through the NATO Shipping Centre ([NSC](#)).

Automatic Identification System ([AIS](#)) devices do not inherently have virus or malware protection, so cybersecurity best practices against hacking should be adhered to if you connect your AIS to a network or update it using removable electronic devices (e.g., USB drives). While it is an invaluable situational tool, AIS should never be solely relied upon for collision avoidance or navigational decision-making.

INCIDENT REPORTING

The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) Maritime Administrator encourages RMI-registered vessels to report any suspected or confirmed electronic interference incidents by sending the following information **in real time** to shipsecurity@register-iri.com and info@shipping.nato.int:

1. DTG (Date Time Group) / Unit LAT/LONG position at reporting time;
2. Track while observing interferences/ From LAT/LONG to LAT/LONG;
3. Duration while observing interferences - start and end time;
4. Interference type (systems affected and how);

This SSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.

5. Assessed direction or coverage area of interference;
6. Navigation - secondary modes of navigation usage and accuracy vs GPS systems;
7. Communications systems affected; and
8. Summary of observations.



NSC: [Threats to Commercial Shipping in the Mediterranean](#)

RMI RESOURCES

1. RMI Marine Guideline [2-11-16](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. The US Coast Guard Navigation Center ([NAVCEN](#)) web page contains a chronological list of recently reported GPS problems.
2. NATO Shipping Center ([NSC](#)) – [Electronic Interferences Assessment](#)
3. INTERTANKO - [Jamming and Spoofing of Global Navigation Satellite Systems \(GNSS\)](#)
4. Maritime Global Security – [Cyber and electromagnetic emissions](#)