

GIBRALTAR DEPARTMENT OF SHIPPING
(Ministry of Trade, Employment and Communications)



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Shipping Guidance Notice – 018

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies

Implementation of LRIT on Gibraltar Registered Ships

1. This Guidance Notice clarifies the requirements of the Gibraltar Maritime Administration for Gibraltar registered ships in respect to the implementation of LRIT.
2. The SOLAS V/19-1 Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) regulation comes into force on the 1st January 2009. The detailed schedule for compliance is given in Solas Chapter V Reg. 19 – 1.4.1 and 1.4.2 (See Annex I). However, the reality is likely to be that most ships must comply from 31 December, 2008.
3. The regulation applies to ships engaged on international voyages, including all passenger ships, cargo ships of 300 gross tonnes and above and Mobile Offshore Drilling Units.
4. Compliance to LRIT is important. Some Governments have indicated that they may not grant entry to their territorial waters, or to their ports, for ships that do not comply with LRIT.
5. All ships borne LRIT equipment must be tested and certified by one of the Authorised Testing Application Service Provider (ASP).
6. For details of companies authorised by Gibraltar as ASP's to carry out the Conformance testing and the issue of the necessary certificate please refer to Shipping Guidance Notice No 19.
7. These Authorised Testing ASPs will also, on behalf of the Flag, issue Conformance Test Reports (Test Certificates) for terminals that pass the test. Test Certificates for LRIT terminals will be required for radio surveys and inspection from 31 December 2008.
8. The ships operator has to provide ship-borne equipment which complies with the LRIT regulation, have it conformance tested and obtain a test certificate. The testing programme will give ships operators time to replace or upgrade any equipment that fails the test.

9. Gibraltar will be required to use the EMSA/EU data centre for the recording of the LRIT information, this is presently being constructed and further information on this aspect will be published in due course.
10. Meanwhile all ships operators of Gibraltar registered ships are urged to make arrangement for their ships to be tested as soon as possible to ensure compliance before the deadline.

Alan Cubbin
Maritime Administrator
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All notices are available through www.gibmaritime.com

IMO references: IMO Resolution MSC 202 (81)
 IMO Resolution MSC 242 (83)
 IMO Resolution MSC 263 (84)
 IMO Resolution MSC 264 (84)
 IMO MSC.1/Circ 1219
 IMO MSC.1/Circ 1256
 IMO MSC.1/Circ 1257
 IMO MSC.1/Circ 1258

Annex 1 – Phase in Schedule for LRIT
Part of Resolution MSC 202(81)
Solas Chap V Reg. 19.1

4.1 Ships shall be fitted with a system to automatically transmit the information specified in paragraph 5 as follows:

.1 ships constructed on or after 31 December 2008;

.2 ships constructed before 31 December 2008 and certified for operations:

.1 in sea areas A1 and A2, as defined in regulations IV/2.1.12 and IV/2.1.13; or

.2 in sea areas A1, A2 and A3, as defined in regulations IV/2.1.12, IV/2.1.13 and IV/2.1.14;

not later than the first survey of the radio installation after 31 December 2008;

.3 ships constructed before 31 December 2008 and certified for operations in sea areas A1, A2, A3 and A4, as defined in regulations IV/2.1.12, IV/2.1.13, IV/2.1.14 and IV/2.1.15, not later than the first survey of the radio installation after 1 July 2009. However, these ships shall comply with the provisions of subparagraph .2 above whilst they operate within sea areas A1, A2 and A3.

4.2 Ships, irrespective of the date of construction, fitted with an automatic identification system (AIS), as defined in regulation 19.2.4, and operated exclusively within sea area A1, as defined in regulation IV/2.1.12, shall not be required to comply with the provisions of this regulation.