



NATIONAL MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY

NOTICE TO SHIPOWNERS (CL 5/2008)

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF LONG RANGE IDENTIFICATION AND TRACKING SYSTEM (LRIT)

The purpose of this Notice is to alert the Master, owners and operators of Papua New Guinean flagged vessels of the imminent introduction of the Long Range Identification and Tracking requirements.

The requirements of the LRIT are contained in the new SOLAS V/19.1 Long Range Identification and Tracking Regulation which entered into force on 01 January, 2008, with compliance required by 31 December 2008. The IMO references for LRIT include Resolution MSC.202 (81), Resolution MSC.210 (81) and Resolution 211 (81).

APPLICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The LRIT regulations will apply to the following ships engaged on international voyages:

- All passenger ships including high speed craft,
- Cargo ships, including high speed craft 300 gross tonnage and above, and
- Mobile offshore drilling units

Ship-based LRIT equipment must be capable of being configured to transmit the following minimum information, in an automatically generated position report (APR) 4 times per day (every 6 hours) to the Australian Regional Data Centre:

- The identity of the ship
- The position of the ship, and
- The date and time of the position

As indicated in the SOLAS amendment (Section 11.1) Contracting Governments are required to bear all costs associated with any LRIT information they request or receive.

To respond to the requirements of LRIT in a timely and cost effective manner, PNG has contracted the services of a commercial Data Centre provider - Pole Star (Purple finder). Applicable PNG registered vessels to which the LRIT regulation applies will need to work with Pole Star directly to ensure their 6 hourly reports are received and forwarded, as required, to the International Data Exchange, Pole Star uses existing INMARSAT "C" terminals to provide APR, noting possible technical difficulties due to older equipment.

NMSA has already notified Owners of the PNG flagged vessels to which it has identified the requirements for the LRIT will apply. If you have not received notification from NMSA and

consider the LRIT requirements apply to a PNG flagged vessel operated by you, you should contact NMSA immediately.

For more information on the introduction of LRIT, please consult the NMSA website at www.nmsa.gov.pg under Circular Letters or contact Mr. Michael Pidi, Acting Manager - Ship Survey and Inspection Department.

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Please be guided by this Notice.

Yours sincerely,
NATIONAL MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY



CHRIS K. RUPEN
General Manager

28th October 2008