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IMSO SIGNS SIXTEEN LRIT SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH POLE STAR



IMSO Director General Captain Esteban Pacha (left) presenting the sixteen signed LRIT Services Agreements to Mr Julian Longson of Pole Star (right)

The IMSO Director General, Captain Esteban Pacha-Vicente, today signed LRIT Services Agreements between IMSO and Pole Star Space Applications Limited on behalf of the following sixteen LRIT Data Centres which have delegated authority to Pole Star: Australia, Bahrain, Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands (UK), Croatia, Faroe Islands (Denmark), Isle of Man (UK), Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Qatar, Sierra Leone and South Africa.

Each Agreement was signed on behalf of Pole Star by Mr Julian Longson, Director, Business Development.

A total of 22 LRIT Services Agreements have now been signed.

The LRIT Services Agreement, prescribed in the IMSO Convention, establishes the relationship between IMSO, as the LRIT Coordinator appointed by IMO, and the LRIT Data Centre for the audit and review of each Data Centre. A Model LRIT Services Agreement was approved for this purpose by the IMSO Assembly at its Twentieth Session on Malta in 2008.

The IMSO LRIT Audit Procedures provide that the LRIT Data Centre Operator should sign an LRIT Services Agreement/Contractual Arrangements with IMSO before the Audit takes place, and settle its financial obligations with IMSO before the final audit report is submitted to the IMO Maritime Safety Committee.

Captain Pacha expressed his satisfaction with the current level of progress on implementation of the LRIT system worldwide and in particular with the commitment of Pole Star and the many countries which it represents in this regard.

Six LRIT Data Centres were integrated into the original LRIT production environment at the end of 2008:

Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Republic of Korea, Marshall Islands
and the United States

In addition, a further twenty-nine LRIT Data Centres have been integrated into the LRIT system by IMSO:

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands (UK), Chile, China, Croatia, European Union, Faroe Islands (Denmark), India, Isle of Man (UK), Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Liberia, Myanmar, Panama, Russian Federation, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Turkey, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

A further nine Centres are in the process of testing, and are expected to be integrated shortly:

This will bring the total number of LRIT Data Centres integrated by the end of 2009 to 44 overall. These Centres integrate more than 80 percent of the world's registered fleet.