CIRCULAR N° PSC 023

PORT STATE CONTROL
INSPECTION OF GMDSS EQUIPMENT

TO: SHIPOWNERS & SHIPS’ OPERATORS & MANAGERS
SURVEYORS TO FLAG STATE ADMINISTRATION

APPLICABLE TO: ALL SHIPS
ENTRY INTO FORCE: DATE OF THE PRESENT CIRCULAR

Monaco, 05 September 2007.

During PSC Inspections GMDSS Officers should be fully familiarized with the GMDSS equipment and tests and should be able to answer the following questionnaire:

1. Demonstrate daily/weekly test on DSC’s
2. Demonstrate how undesignated distress alert is sent on VHF, MF/HF DSC’s
3. Demonstrate how designated distress alert is sent on VHF, MF/HF DSCs
4. Explain how you will cancel a false distress alert sent on VHF DSC, including channel and message
5. Explain how you will cancel a false distress alert sent on MF/HF DSC, including frequency and message
6. Demonstrate how you will send an undesignated distress alert using the INMARSAT C terminal.
7. Explain which action you will take to cancel a false distress alert on INMARSAT C
8. Demonstrate how you will send a designated distress alert on INMARSAT C.
9. Explain how the EPIRB activates automatically and precautions to be taken to prevent false alerts.
10. Explain how to manually activate the EPIRB.
11. Explain the procedure to cancel false alert sent on the EPIRB.
12. Explain routine checks and tests to be carried out on the EPIRB
13. Explain how to activate a SART.
14. Explain the routine checks and tests to be carried out on the SART.
15. Explain which action should be taken if the SART is interrogated when in the life raft.
16. Enumerate the daily/weekly and monthly tests/checks to be carried out as per GMDSS Regulations
17. Fully explain how the GMDSS Radio Log should be maintained
18. Explain test and routine checks to be carried out on the GMDSS hand held radio (walkie-talkie).