



# ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

### CIRCULAR N° SOL 007 - Rev. 2

#### **Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) And Back-Up Arrangements**

SOLAS 74 as amended  
(Consolidated Edition 2004)  
Ch. V, Reg. 19.2.1.4, 19.2.1.5 and 27  
and IMO resolution A. 817(19) as amended

**TO: SHIPOWNERS & SHIPS' OPERATORS & MANAGERS  
SURVEYORS TO FLAG STATE ADMINISTRATION  
CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES**

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** Date of present Circular

Monaco, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009

St Vincent and the Grenadines Maritime Administration accepts the use of Electronic Charts and Display Information Systems as per SOLAS Regulations V/19.2.1.4 and V/19.2.1.5, under the following conditions:

- 1 ECDIS has to be approved in accordance with the requirements of the IMO Resolution A.817 (19) as amended by MSC.64 (67), Annex 5 and MSC.86 (70), Annex 4 and has to be operated with up-to-date Electronic Nautical Charts. Ships sailing in waters not covered by Electronic Nautical Charts should be fitted with an updated folio of paper nautical charts. Masters and officers should be aware of the limitations of Raster Chart Display System (RCDS) as indicated in the IMO Safety of Navigation Circular SN/Circ.207.
- 2 In order to meet a proper ECDIS back-up arrangements as per SOLAS Regulations V/19.2.1.5 the ship must be fitted either with a secondary type approved ECDIS in accordance with the requirements of the MSC Resolution 64(67) or updated nautical paper charts for the intended voyage. For ECDIS operating in the Raster Chart Display System (RCDS) mode, updated nautical paper charts for the intended voyage are requested as a back-up arrangement.
- 3 It is the Owner's/Company's responsibility that Masters and Navigation Watch Officers serving onboard vessels fitted with ECDIS be trained. IMO Safety of Navigation Circular SN.1/276 includes general guidance pertaining to ECDIS-related training requirements. They should also be familiar with the requirements of any local authorities regarding the use of ECDIS in their waters.

Ships will be required to retrofit the equipment “at the first survey”, in accordance with the application schedule below, based on the vessel’s type, size and keel laying date.

Ship’s type	Size	New ships (construction – keel laying date)	Other ships
Passenger ships	500 GT and above	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2012	Not later than the first survey* on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2014
Tankers	3,000 GT and above	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2012	Not later than the first survey* on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2015
Others	50,000 GT and above	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2013	Not later than the first survey* on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2016
	20,000 GT and above	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2013	Not later than the first survey* on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2017
	10,000 GT and above	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2013	Not later than the first survey* on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2018. There are no retrofitting requirements for existing ships less than 10,000 GT
	3,000 GT and above	1 <sup>st</sup> July 2014	There are no retrofitting requirements for existing ships less than 10,000 GT

Although the “first survey” may not coincide with dry docking, owners should be aware that substantial work could be involved in retrofitting this equipment, which could take the ship out of service.

Consideration should therefore be given to carrying out the necessary modifications in dry dock, before the mandatory implementation date.

The above-mentioned information on the new requirement is intended to enable Shipowners and Managers to plan accordingly.

### First Survey

\*The first survey means the first annual survey, the first periodical survey or the first renewal survey, whichever is due first after the date specified.

1. For a passenger ship, this is the first renewal survey for “Passenger ship safety survey”;
2. For a cargo ship (non-passenger ship), this is either the “Cargo ship safety equipment survey” or the “Cargo ship safety survey” (combined survey – if the ship chooses to combine all SOLAS certificates in one).
3. For both passenger ships and cargo ships which are under construction, if the keel is laid before, but the ship is delivered after, the date specified in the relevant regulation, the initial survey is the “first survey”.

Annexes: IMO Resolution A.817 (19), MSC.64 (67), Annex 5, MSC.86 (70), Annex 4, IMO Safety of Navigation Circulars SN/Circ.207 and SN.1/276.