

Subject :

Conditions for Exemption from
Application of GMDSS Requirements
in Chapter IV of SOLAS Convention
(Belizean Flag Ships)

NKTECHNICAL INFORMATION

No. : 292

Date : 18 December 1998

To shipowners and shipbuilders concerned,

The procedures and requirements of the governments of Liberia, Marshall Islands and Panama in respect of exemption from application of GMDSS requirements in Chapter IV of the SOLAS Convention are shown in NK Technical Information No.284 dated 5 November 1998. The Belizean Government has recently notified the Society of its conditions for exemption from application of the same requirements, the abstract of which is shown below for information.

For details, please refer to Notice of the Belizean Government attached hereto.

1. Conditions for the granting of exemption

- The ship is permanently registered in Belize.
- The owner will file a written statement that the ship will be taken permanently out of service prior to 1 February 2001 and that he understands the ship will be fined in the case of sale or failure to take the ship permanently out of service within 2 years.
- The ship is to have a radiotelephone station complying with SOLAS Chapter IV, as per the text in force prior to 1 February 1992. A Reserve source of electrical power in order to conduct distress and safety radiocommunications using the radiotelephone on medium frequency (2182kHz) and VHF in a "dead ship condition" will be mandatory.
- The following GMDSS equipment should be on board: VHF hand-held radios, Radartransponders, Satellite EPIRB and NAVTEX receiver.
- Regarding the requirements of SOLAS (1988 Amendments) Regulation IV/4, each ship will be capable of:
 2. Transmitting ship-to-shore distress alerts by at least two separate and independent means, each using a different radiocommunication service: Such as Primary- INMARSAT-C and secondary- Satellite EPIRB,
 3. Receiving shore-to-ship distress alerts: EGC (INMARSAT-C),
 4. Transmitting and receiving ship-to-ship distress alerts: VHF-DSC & VHF Ch.16,

ClassNK NIPPON KAIJI KYOKAI
4-7, KIOI-CHO, CHIYODA-KU,
TOKYO 102-8567, JAPAN.

TELEX: J22975 CLASSNK
2324280 CLASNKJ
CABLE: CLASSNK TOKYO

5. Transmitting and receiving search and rescue coordination communications: INMARSAT-C with EGC.

- The ship is to sail with qualified Radio Officer.

2. Application for exemption from the provisions of the GMDSS requirements under the category of unreasonable or unnecessary will have to contain the following information:

- Ship name, call sign, IMO number,
- Gross Tonnage,
- Area of Navigation,
- Sea area service provided within the area of navigation,
- Actual request (cite the SOLAS regulation desired to be exempted from and the SOLAS regulation on which the exemption could be based),
- Any other special conditions.

The End

Attachment: Notice dated 12 Nov. 1998 of Belizean Government

Department in charge : Material and Equipment Department

Tel : 03-5226-2020

Fax : 03-5226-2019

International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize

IMMARBE

Marina Towers, Suite 204
Newtown Barracks, Belize City, Belize, C. A.
Tel (501-2) 35026/35031/35047
Fax: (501-2) 35048/35070

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET 11/12/98

To: Recognized Organizations and Deputy Registrars

Re: GMDSS Equipment

Sender: **IMMARBE HEAD OFFICE**

You should receive five (5) page(s), including this cover sheet. If you do not receive all the pages please call:
Telephone: (501-2) 35026/35031/35047

Under the 1988 Amendments to SOLAS, all ships are to comply with the requirements of GMDSS radio equipment by February 1, 1999. It is also specified in Regulation 3 of Chapter IV that an exemption to the GMDSS requirements specified in Regulation 7 to 11 under certain conditions. One of the conditions is that the vessel will be taken permanently out of service within 2 years, before February 1, 2001. The application for this exemption must be made prior to February 1, 1999.

Conditions for the granting of this exemption are as follows:

- The vessel is permanently registered in Belize.
- The owner will file a written statement that the vessel will be taken permanently out of service prior to February 1, 2001 and that he understands the vessel will be fined in the case of sale or failure to take the vessel permanently out of service within 2 years.
- Vessel to have a radiotelephone station complying with SOLAS Chapter IV, as per the text in force prior to February 1, 1992. A Reserve source of electrical power in order to conduct distress and safety radiocommunications using the radiotelephone on medium frequency (2182kHz) and VHF in a "dead ship condition" will be mandatory.
- The following GMDSS equipment must be on board: VHF hand-held radios, SARTS, Satellite EPIRB, and NAVTEX.
- Regarding the requirements of SOLAS (1988 Amendments) Regulation IV/ 4, each ship will be capable of:
 1. Transmitting ship-to-shore distress alerts by at least two separate and independent means, each using a different radiocommunication service: Such as Primary – INMARSAT C and secondary – Satellite EPIRB.
 2. Receiving shore-to-ship distress alerts: EGC (INMARSAT C)
 3. Transmitting and receiving ship-to-ship distress alerts: VHF-DSC & VHF Ch. 16
 4. Transmitting and receiving search and rescue coordination communications: INMARSAT C with EGC.
- Vessel to sail with qualified Radio Officer.

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FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET 11/12/98

Applications for exemptions from the provisions of the GMDSS requirements under the category of unreasonable or unnecessary will have to contain the following information:

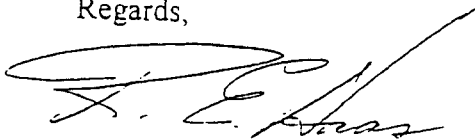
- Ship name, call sign, IMO Number
- Gross Tonnage
- Area of Navigation
- Sea area services provided within the area of navigation
- Actual request (cite the SOLAS regulation desired to be exempted from and the SOLAS regulation on which the exemption could be based).
- Any other special conditions

Referring to the particular GMDSS equipment to be carried on Belize-flagged vessels, the following applies:

- The Sea Areas are determined by the governments on land that can provide the Sea Area communication services. Any vessel that operates solely within the territorial waters of any given coastal state, shall comply with that Coastal State's requirements for GMDSS equipment.
- Vessels that engage in international trade along the coastlines, the vessel will determine the Sea Areas services provided within their area of navigation in order to establish the GMDSS equipment required. For this information, the owners can contact the NAVAREA coordinators or the Coastal States for literature regarding the Sea Areas and recommendations for equipment. A diagram of the NAVAREAs and the listing of the NAVAREA coordinators are attached.
- In the case of a vessel trading along a coast with no Sea Area A1 or Sea Area A2 services being provided, the vessel shall be fitted with equipment for Sea Area A3.

Hopefully this answers some of the questions that are arising more frequently as we approach the deadline for GMDSS installation of February 1, 1999.

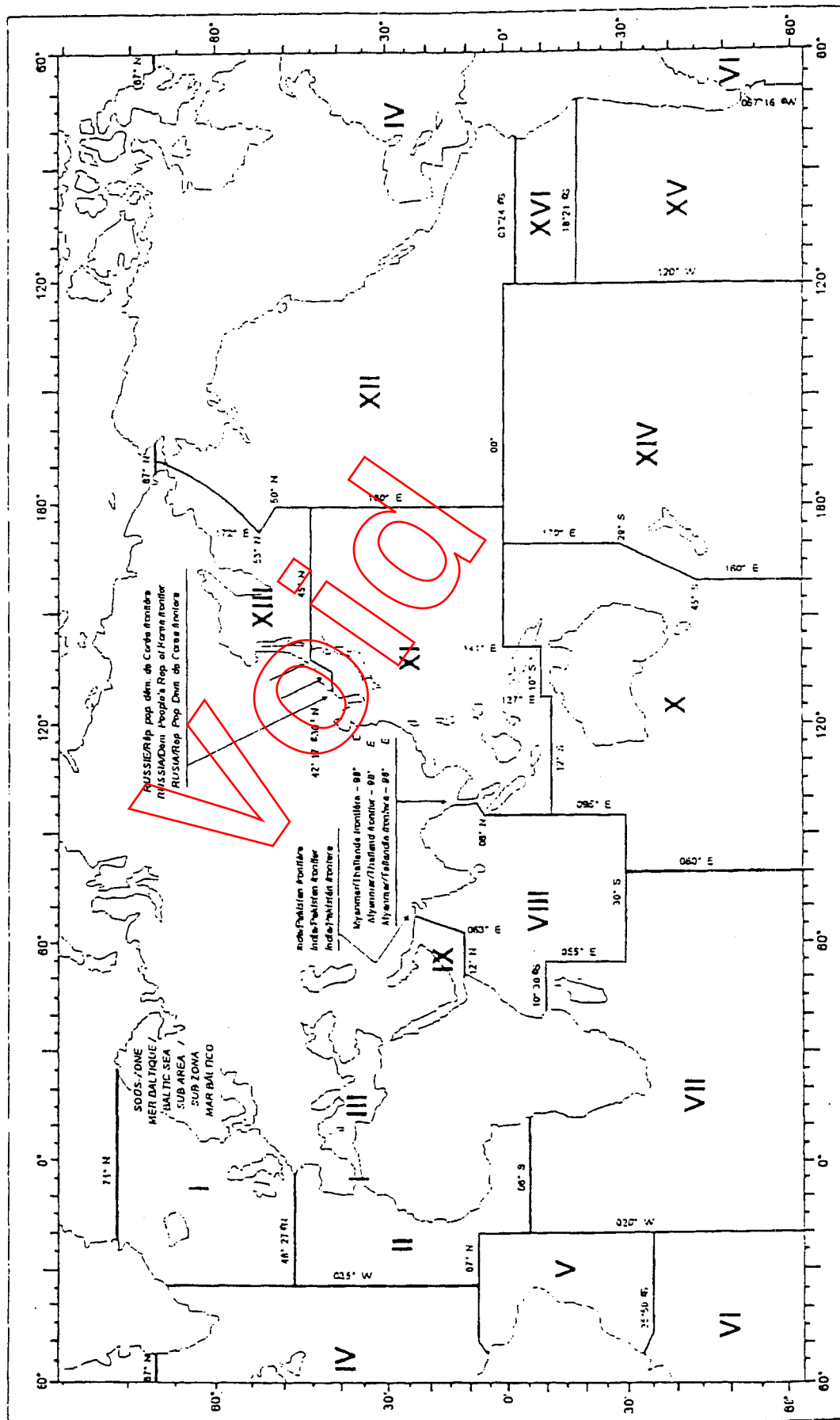
Regards,



Richard E. Haas
Technical Advisor

GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS FOR CO-ORDINATING AND PROMULGATING RADIO NAVIGATIONAL WARNINGS

ZONAS GEOGRÁFICAS PROPUESTAS PARA LA COORDINACIÓN Y LA DIFUSIÓN DE LOS RADIOAVISOS NAÚTICOS



Appendix A

LA DÉLIMITATION DE CES ZONES NAVAREA, QUI N'EST PAS LIÉE À LA DÉLIMITATION DES FRONTIÈRES ENTRE ÉTATS, EST FAITE SANS PRÉJUDICIE DE CPS INTERNATIONALES

THE DELIMITATION OF THESE NAVARREAS IS NOT RELATED AND SHALL NOT PREJUDICE THE DELIMITATIONS OF ANY BOUNDARIES BETWEEN STATES

LA DELIMITACIÓN DE ESTAS ZONAS NAVÁRRA NO ESTÁ RELACIONADA CON LA DELIMITACIÓN DE LAS PRONTUAS ENTRE ESTADOS, NI LAS PRONTUAS

NAVAREA CO-ORDINATORS

NAVAREA I

The Hydrographer of the Navy
United Kingdom Hydrographic Office
Admiralty Way
TAUNTON
Somerset TA1 2DN
England
Ph: +44 1823 723316
FAX: +44 1823 322352
Internet: hmsi@hydro.gov.uk

(Baltic Sea Sub-Area):
Co-ordinator
Swedish Hydrographic Department
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Sweden
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FAX: +46 11 13 39 03
Internet: hydr.offi@shipadm.se

NAVAREA II

Directeur
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13 Rue du Chatellier
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France
Ph: +33 2 98 22 15 99
FAX: +33 2 98 22 14 32
Internet: coord.navarea2@shom.fr

NAVAREA III

Head, Navigational Section
Instituto Hidrográfico de la Marina
Tolosa Latour Nº 1
11007 CADIZ
Spain
Ph: 34 (56) 599399/599409
FAX: +34 (56) 599396/275358
Internet: ihmesp@redestb.es

NAVAREA IV and XII

National Imagery and Mapping Agency
Attn: GIMMB (Mail Stop D-44)
4600 Sangamore Rd.
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Ph: +1 (301) 227 3147
FAX: +1 (301) 227 3731
Telex: 898334/EASYLINK MBS 62554950
Tele: NIMA NAVSAFETY BETHESDA MD
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NAVAREA V

Director
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Internet: vsanz@rina.hidro.gov.ar

NAVAREA VII

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NAVAREA VIII

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to the Government of India
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India
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FAX: +91 135 748373
Telex: 585-220
Teleg: HYDRO DEHRA DUN
Internet: nhc.ddun@access.net.in

NAVAREA IX

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Fax: +92 51 920 8897

NAVAREA X

Maritime Duty Officer
Australian Search and Rescue (AusSAR)
Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)
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FAX: +61 2 6230-6868
Internet: RCC@amsa.gov.au

NAVAREA XI

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Maritime Safety Agency)
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Internet: joda@ws14.cue.jhd.go.jp

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FAX: +7 812 213 7548
Telex: 121531 NAVIO RU
Teleg: St. PETERSBURG HYDROGRAPHIA
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NAVAREA XIV

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NAVAREA XV

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y Oceanográfico de la Armada
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NAVAREA XVI

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