

Subject:

Equivalent Arrangements for Survival
Craft Emergency Position-Indicating
Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)

NK TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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As you are aware, one emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRB) is required to be carried on each side of the new ship (the ship constructed on and after 1 July 1986) on and after 1 July 1986 and of the existing ship (the ship other than the new ship) on and after 1 July 1991.

With this regard, the governments of Bahamas, Liberia and Panama have recently notified us of their policy to accept one survival craft radar transponder being carried on each side of the ship and a float-free satellite EPIRB operating on 406 MHz as equivalent to survival craft EPIRBs.

This follows the IMO decision recently made and takes into account (a) that survival craft EPIRBs will not be mandatory requirement after the FGMDS (Future Global Maritime Distress and Safety System) is implemented around 1990, and (b) that the functions required/provided for survival craft EPIRBs will be performed by both survival craft radar transponders and float-free satellite EPIRB instead.

The Society has already approached other governments than the above three and has been inquiring about their policy of acceptance of the above mentioned IMO decision, and will inform you of their policy as soon as it becomes available. If you have any inquiry in this respect, please do not hesitate to contact "Overseas Department" of the Head Office in Tokyo.

