



**DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA  
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## **MSN 20/2016**

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**Notice to All Ship-Owners, Operators, Training Institutes, Masters of Sri Lankan Flagged Ships, and Recognized Organizations.**

### **Voyage Data Recorder (VDR) and Simplified Voyage Data Recorder (S-VDR) Annual Test, and Its Performance Standards**

Reference a) SOLAS regulation V/20,  
b) SOLAS regulation V/18.8,  
c) IMO Resolutions MSC. 333(90), MSC. 214(81), A.861(20), MSC.163(78) and MSC.1/Circ.1222

#### **1.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this notice is to communicate all parties concerned with Sri Lankan flag ships, of the approved guidelines adopted with the purpose of having a standard method for the annual testing of the VDR and S-VDR and the Performance Standards for Ship borne Voyage Data Recorders (VDRs)

#### **2.0 Requirements**

2.1 Ship owners must issue standing orders to their ships' personnel to ensure the timely preservation of the evidence stored in the VDR/S-VDR. In case of sinking of a ship, owners must take all necessary actions and cooperate with the Administration carrying out the investigation in recovering and preserving the protective capsule and make available all decoding instructions which are necessary to recover the stored data.

##### **2.2 Annual Testing**

2.2.1 The requirements for VDR and S-VDR systems to be subject of an annual testing has been approved by the revision of SOLAS Regulation V/20 and established by Regulation V/18.8 as amended.

2.2.2 The purpose of an annual performance test is to determine that a VDR/S-VDR is operational as defined in the manufacturer's specification.

2.2.3. The annual test for the VDR and S-VDR will be carried out by the manufacturer or a person authorized by the manufacturer.

2.2.4 The annual test may be carried out:

a. Up to 3 months before the due date of the passenger ship and 3 months before or after the due date of a cargo ship. (The maximum period between subsequent checks is, therefore, 15 months for passenger ships and 18 months for cargo ships, unless either certificate has been extended as permitted by SOLAS regulation I/14, in which case a similar extension may be granted.). The manufacturer must complete a review, record any changes and issue the completed test report within 45 days. To accommodate performance checks to align with the appropriate survey under the Harmonized System of Survey and Certification (HSSC).

2.2.5 The annual test report should be recorded in the form specified in the appendix of the MSC.1/Circ.1222. A copy of the report from the test will remain on board of the vessel. Also these forms will be available for all Port State Control Inspectors and Flag Inspectors.

## 2.3 Performance Standards

2.3.1 Shipborne Simplified voyage data recorders (S-VDRs) conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution MSC.163(78) as amended by resolution MSC.214(81).

2.3.2. Shipborne voyage data recorders VDRs installed before 1 July 2014, conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution A.861(20), as amended by resolution MSC.214(81).

2.3.3. Shipborne voyage data recorders VDRs installed on or after 1 July 2014, conform to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to resolution MSC.333(90).

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