



**DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
MERCHANT SHIPPING SECRETARIAT
MINISTRY OF PORTS AND SHIPPING**

1st Floor, Bristol Building, 43-89, York Street, Colombo 01, Sri Lanka.

Telephone: +94(0)112435127, Fax: +94(0)112435160, E-mail: dmsmos@sltnet.lk

MSN 14/2016

04th May 2016

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

Annual Testing and Maintenance Services of 406 Mhz Satellite EPIRB

- References**
- a. IMO MSC/Circ.1040/Rev.1- Revised Guidelines on Annual Testing for 406MHz Satellite EPIRB.
 - b. SOLAS Chapter IV, Regulation 15.9
 - c. IMO MSC/Circ.1039 -The Guidelines for shore-based maintenance of satellite EPIRBs

1. Purpose

Purpose of this notice is to inform the requirement of SOLAS Chapter IV, regulation 15.9.

2. Requirements

2.1. Annual test for all aspects of operational efficiency, with a special emphasis on checking the emission on operational frequencies, coding and registration, at intervals as specified below:

- (a) on passenger ships, within 3 months before the expiry date of the Passenger Ship Safety Certificate; and
- (b) on cargo ships, within 3 months before the expiry date, or 3 months before or after the anniversary date, of the Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate.

The test may be conducted on board the ship or at an approved testing station; and

2.2 MSC/Circ.955 further recommends that annual testing of the EPIRB shall be carried out concurrently with the Annual Safety Radio Survey.

2.3 The testing should be carried out by persons with the necessary skills and competency and having the required test equipment. Caution should be exercised at all times during the testing to avoid transmitting false distress alerts.

2.4 The maintenance at intervals not exceeding five years should be performed at an approved shore-based maintenance facility.

Shore based maintenance

2.5 Shore based maintenance of satellite EPIRBs shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of IMO MSC Circular 1039 at an interval not exceeding 5 years or when the battery replacement is due.

2.6 Shore-Based Maintenance (SBM) provider shall be;

2.6.1 An approved entity by the recognized organization issuing relevant statutory certificates on behalf of the Merchant Shipping Secretariat; and

2.6.2 Comply with the paragraph 2.1 of the IMO MSC circular 1039

Issued on 04th May 2016

Director General of Merchant Shipping
Merchant Shipping Secretariat
Ministry of Ports and Shipping
Tel : +94-11-2435127 / +94-11-2430305
Fax : +94-11-2435160
E-mail : dmsmos@sltnet.lk
Web : www.dgshipping.gov.lk