

MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-STP/01/2023

Long Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT)

To: Deputy Offices, Ship-owners/Operators, Masters, Company Security Officers, Representatives, and Recognized Organizations (RO) of vessels under the Flag of Sao Tome and Principe.

This Circular contains information and instructions to assist in complying with the requirements of SOLAS V/19-1 Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT). It is intended to provide guidance to owners, operators, managers, and masters of Sao Tome and Principe-registered ships and commercial yachts over 300 gt.

Background

SOLAS V/19-1 Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT) requirements entered into force on 1 January 2008 with a compliance date of 31 December 2008.

LRIT allows Administrations to receive position reports from vessels flying the flag of Sao Tome and Principe from anywhere in the world. This also allows national governments to enhance their awareness of vessels in their territorial waters and off their coastlines.

LRIT is given effect through amendments to chapter V of the SOLAS Convention and the introduction of regulation SOLAS V/19-1.

The regulation requires ships to transmit the following information for LRIT purposes:

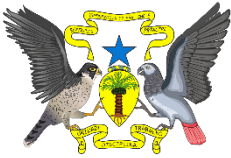
- i. Identity of the ship
- ii. Position of the ship
- iii. The date and time of the position

As required by the relevant regulations, the owners of Sao Tome and Principe-flagged vessels will incur no additional costs associated with the transmission and receipt of the position reports required by LRIT.

Application

SOLAS V/19-1 applies to the following vessels engaged in international voyages:

- i. Cargo Vessels, including High-Speed Craft, equal to or over 300 gt;
- ii. Passenger ships, including High-Speed Passenger craft;
- iii. Mobile Offshore Drilling Units; and
- iv. Yachts equal to or over 300 gt, certified for commercial operation under a "Yacht Code" or holding a Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate.



Ships to which SOLAS V/19-1 applies, constructed after 31 December 2008 must comply with the requirements at the time of delivery.

Those ships operating exclusively in GMDSS sea area A1 and fitted with an Automatic Identification System (AIS) are exempt from LRIT regulations.

Inmarsat C, ISatM2M, and Iridium are the only networks used for the transmission of LRIT data by Sao Tome and Principe.

All Sao Tome and Principe-flagged ships subject to SOLAS V/19-1, as indicated under 'Application' above, must be:

- i. Registered for testing with the Recognised and/or Authorised Application Service Provider as soon as possible to avoid any unforeseen delays in compliance;
- ii. Hold a Conformance Test Report Certificate (CTR) for LRIT conformance; and
- iii. Meet transmission requirements.

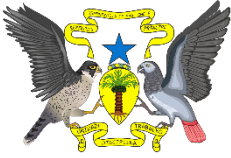
Required Action by Owners/Operators

We have appointed Pole Star Space Applications Limited (PoleStar) as the recognised Testing Application Service Provider (ASP) to undertake shipborne equipment testing and the issuance of a Conformance Test Report Certificate (CTR).

- i. Owners of ships subject to SOLAS V/19-1 will need to register their nominated Inmarsat C or Iridium terminal for testing with PoleStar. Contact details are included below.
- ii. Once registration is complete, an activation code (Data Reporting and Polling Closed Network Identity or DNID) and other supplemental commands will be downloaded automatically to the vessel's nominated terminal. This will activate the transmissions required for the test.
- iii. Following activation, there will be a period of testing in line with guidelines contained in MSC.1/Circ.1296. This is necessary to ensure the transmitted data is accurate and reliable. This testing will be carried out remotely by PoleStar. Upon successful completion, a CTR certificate will be issued by PoleStar on behalf of the Sao Tome and Principe International Ship Registry. All vessels must hold such a certificate to comply with SOLAS V/19-1.
- iv. Owners of ships with terminals that do not support LRIT will need to either upgrade one of the terminals onboard or preferably install a 'stand-alone' LRIT terminal.
- v. All costs for testing and issuance of CTR certificates will be borne by the owner of the ship unless otherwise notified.

Contacts

If a ship owner is in any doubt as to the applicability of SOLAS V/19-1 to their ships, they should contact the Sao Tome and Principe International Ship Registry at



info@stpregistry.com for further advice and guidance.

For information regarding LRIT testing contact Pole Star Space Applications Limited on:

(Email) sales@polestarglobal.com

(Telephone) +44 (0)20 7313 7403

(Website) <https://www.polestarglobal.com/news-events/what-is-an-lrit-conformance-test-and-how-can-i-obtain-a-certificate>

<https://www.polestarglobal.com/software-solutions/lrit-conformance>

Additional Information

General information and LRIT requirements are available at <http://www.lrit.com>. Pertinent IMO resolutions can be found at <http://www.lrit.com/regulation.html>

The following documents adopted by IMO give full details on the LRIT requirements and their implementation.

- i. LRIT Regulation - **IMO Resolution MSC.202(81)**
- ii. Safety & Environment - **IMO Resolution MSC.242(83)**
- iii. Revised performance standards and functional requirements for the LRIT of Ships - **IMO Resolution MSC.263(84)**
- iv. Established of the International Data Exchange on an interim basis - **IMO Resolution MSC.265(84)**
- v. Guidance on the implementation of the LRIT system - **IMO Resolution MSC.1/Circ.1298**
- vi. Guidance on the survey and certification of compliance of ships with the requirement to transmit LRIT information - **IMO Resolution MSC.1/Circ.1307**
- vii. Guidance to Search and Rescue services in relation to requesting and receiving LRIT information - **IMO Resolution MSC.1/Circ.1308**



São Tomé and Príncipe
INTERNATIONAL SHIP REGISTRY

Website: www.stpregistry.com

E-mail: info@stpregistry.com

Tel. +357-2535-8335

Address: 67 Franklin Roosevelt Ave., 3011 Limassol, Cyprus