



Technical Circular

No.: 05/2015

Date: 17th March 2015

To Whomsoever it may concern

Subject: Detention of ships due to inoperational/defective GMDSS and Navigational Equipment

1. Though only two months have only elapsed for the current year 2015, it is alarming to note that already 5 PSC detentions have been recorded till date. Looking at the detainable deficiencies raised by PSC, it is noted that majority of the detainable deficiencies are under the category of '**Radio Communication**' and '**Safety of Navigation**'.
2. For ready reference, the deficiencies under above categories are listed below:

2.1 Radio Communication:

- MF/HF radio defective/not working
- INM-C not operational
- GMDSS operator unable to operate Narrow Band Direct Printing (NBDP).
- VHF DSC-Sailor not operational/defective.
- GMDSS Walkie-Talkies not having sealed spare batteries
- GMDSS Walkie-Talkies spare batteries expired / batteries not in working condition.
- GMDSS Log Book incomplete

2.2 Safety of Navigation

- S-VDR inoperational
- S-VDR showing error
- Both radars inoperational
- Gyro repeater not working
- Magnetic compass not operational with no fluid
- Magnetic compass not readable from bridge
- BNWAS inoperational
- Voyage charts not corrected or latest charts not available.

3. Noting that GMDSS and navigational equipment are continuously used during navigation by navigating officers and tested at periodic intervals, it is not difficult to identify any malfunctioning equipment during operation and initiate corrective action.
4. In the event that the defective equipment cannot be repaired due to non-availability of spares or technicians at the next arrival port, the company can take steps to inform flag administration and take their advice.
5. Records with respect to failure of equipment and follow up action along with record of periodic maintenance and testing etc. are required to be maintained and for verification of authorities in order that same is not recorded as a detainable deficiency.
6. When equipment is known to give regular problem, company should consider replacing the same with a new one.
7. Timely preventive maintenance and testing of these equipment as per PMS and maker's instructions are essential in order to ensure assured performance.
8. The purpose of this circular is to appraise owners/managers of the recent trend with regard to the nature of PSC deficiencies found on ships so that necessary measures can be put in place to avoid similar deficiencies leading to detentions.

Enclosure:

1. Nil.

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