

Commonwealth of Dominica**Office of the Maritime Administrator**

TO: ALL SHIP OWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS, RO's AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS

SUBJECT: BRIDGE NAVIGATIONAL WATCH ALARM SYSTEM

**REFERENCE: (a) Resolution MSC 282 (86)
(b) Resolution MSC 128 (75)**

**APPLICABILITY: (a) all Dominica cargo ships of 150 gross tonnages and above
(b) all Dominica passenger ships**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Circular is to bring to the attention of all concerned, the information regarding the performance standards and schedule of implementation for the Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm System (BNWAS)

BACKGROUND:

On 20 May 2002, the IMO adopted the performance standards for Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm Systems (BNWAS) with Resolution MSC.128(75). On 5 June 2009, the requirement and schedule for implementation for the carriage of a BNWAS was adopted by Resolution MSC.282(86) and included in SOLAS, Chapter V, Regulation 19, paragraph 2.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The schedule for implementation of BNWAS according to SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 19.2.2.3 is as follows:

- .1 Cargo ships of 150 gross tonnages and upwards and passenger ships irrespective of size constructed on or after 1 July 2011;

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- .2 Passenger ships irrespective of size constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey after 1 July 2012;
 - .3 Cargo ships of 3,000 gross tonnages and upwards constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey after 1 July 2012
 - .4 Cargo ships of 500 gross tonnages and upwards but less than 3,000 gross tonnage constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey after 1 July 2013; and
 - .5 Cargo ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 500 gross tonnage constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey after 1 July 2014.

REQUIREMENTS:

General

- 1 The BNWAS is required to be operative at all times while the vessel is underway.
- 2 The equipment must comply with the following IMO resolutions and circular:
 - a. A.694(17)
 - b. A.813(19)
 - c. And MSC/Circ.982

EXEMPTIONS:

- 1 Any vessel with a Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm System that was fitted before 1 July 2011 may request exemption from full compliance with the performance standards adopted by IMO in Resolution MSC.128(75)

Any questions relating to the implementation of the Bridge Navigational Alarm Watch System can be directed to:

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