

Commonwealth of Dominica



Office of the Maritime Administrator

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS AND OPERATORS, USERS OF MARITIME DEVICES, SALES AND FILING AGENTS, AND REGIONAL OFFICES

SUBJECT: ASSIGNMENT AND USE OF IDENTITIES IN THE MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE (“MMSI”)

REFERENCE

- a) Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Act of 2000, as amended
- b) CDVR-2004 Application for Ship Radio Station License (Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Administration)
- c) CD-PL 02-17 Maritime Mobile and Maritime Mobile Satellite Radio Services Accounting Authority Approval and Operating Procedures
- d) CDVR-2021 Application for registration of maritime devices other than ship stations (Commonwealth of Dominica Maritime Administration)
- e) Recommendation ITU-R M.585-8 – Assignment and use of identities in the maritime mobile service (International Telecommunication Union)

PURPOSE: This policy letter sets forth the regulation and requirements for assignment and use of maritime mobile service identities (“MMSI”)

APPLICABILITY: APPLIES to all maritime devices requiring Maritime Mobile Service Identities (MMSI)

SCOPE:

The Commonwealth of Dominica regulations allows maritime devices to be registered under the Maritime Administration and assigned a maritime mobile service identity (“MMSI”) for international identity recognition. The Administration will assign and conserve identity resources for the maritime mobile service using the recommendations of the International Telecommunication Union (“ITU”). The registration and the consequent retrieval of information concerning these devices via the ITU Maritime mobile Access and Retrieval System (MARS) may facilitate search and rescue operations in case of emergencies (especially outside national borders by Maritime Rescue Coordination Centres).

Dominica’s Maritime identification digit (“MID”) is 325.

Section 1 describes formats for assignment of MMSI to ship stations.

Section 2 describes formats for assignment of MMSI to other devices.

List of Abbreviations/Glossary

| | |
|-------|---|
| AIS | Automatic identification system |
| AtoN | Aid to navigation |
| DSC | Digital selective calling |
| EPIRB | Emergency position indicating radio beacon |
| GMDSS | Global maritime distress and safety system |
| GNSS | Global navigation satellite system |
| IALA | International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities |
| ITU | International Telecommunication Union |
| MARS | Maritime mobile Access and Retrieval System |
| MID | Maritime identification digit |
| MMSI | Maritime mobile service identity |
| MOB | Man overboard |
| RCC | Rescue coordination center |
| SART | Search and rescue transmitter |

SECTION 1

Assignment of identification to ship station

A unique MMSI is assigned to a vessel during the vessel registration process when it applies for a Ship Radio Station License. The vessel's MMSI may be programmed into each device so long as the device is present onboard the vessel and does not associate with one of the identity categories in Section 2 below.

The nine (9) digit MMSI is based on Dominica numbering system which corresponds with the advice of the ITU.

- a) 325XXXXXX Ship station

For assignment of identification to ship station, *CDVR-2004 Application for Ship Radio Station License* shall be used. In this process, a vessel shall identify all applicable radio equipment onboard.

SECTION 2

Assignment of identification to automatic identification systems aids to navigation

A unique MMSI may be assigned to an AtoN operating radio equipment within the Dominica EEZ. The Office of the Deputy Maritime Administrator directs those seeking an MMSI for an AtoN to first seek approval through the Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives.

The nine (9) digit MMSI is based on Dominica numbering system which corresponds with the advice of the ITU.

- a) 99MID1XXX Physical AIS AtoN
- b) 99MID6XXX Virtual AIS AtoN
- c) 99MID8XXX Mobile AtoN

For assignment of identification to AtoN, *CDVR-2021 Application for registration of maritime devices other than ship stations* shall be used.

Assignment of identification to craft associated with a parent ship

A unique MMSI may be assigned to a craft operating radio equipment which is associated with a Dominica flagged vessel (the “parent ship.”)

The nine (9) digit MMSI is based on Dominica numbering system which corresponds with the advice of the ITU.

- a) 98MIDXXXX Craft associated with a parent ship

For assignment of identification to craft associated with a parent ship, *CDVR-2021 Application for registration of maritime devices other than ship stations* shall be used.

Assignment of identities for handheld VHF transceivers with digital selective calling and global navigation satellite system

A unique MMSI may be assigned to VHF devices with DSC and/or GNSS operating. The device must be associated with a Dominica flagged vessel.

The nine (9) digit MMSI is based on Dominica numbering system which corresponds with the advice of the ITU.

- a) 8MIDXXXXX VHF transceivers with DSC and/or GNSS

For assignment of identification to VHF, *CDVR-2021 Application for registration of maritime devices other than ship stations* shall be used.

Assignment of identification to Automatic identification system-search and rescue transmitter, man overboard devices, and Emergency position indicating radio beacon-automatic identification system

A unique MMSI may be assigned to an AIS-SART, MOB, or EPIRB-AIS. The device must be associated with a Dominica flagged vessel.

The nine (9) digit MMSI is based on Dominica numbering system which corresponds with the advice of the ITU.

- a) 970XXYYYY AIS-SART
- b) 972XXYYYY MOB with DSC and/or AIS
- c) 974XXYYYY EPIRB-AIS

For assignment of identification to AIS-SART, MOB, or EPIRB-AIS, *CDVR-2021 Application for registration of maritime devices other than ship stations* shall be used.

Identity registration process for non-ship station applications

A. REGISTRATION DOCUMENTATION

1. Application:

CDVR-2021 Application for registration of maritime devices other than ship stations.

The registration process begins with the submission of this application and the supporting documents outlined below to the Office of the Deputy Maritime Administrator.

2. Required Documents to Accompany the Application:

Applications for registration of devices will follow standard due diligence procedures and requirements include submission of shareholders documentation and evidence of ultimate beneficial ownership. This includes corporate documentation and passport copies.

B. DELETION OF IDENTITIES, REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT, AND MORE

For vessels registered with the Administration:

When a vessel is deleted from the registry, the Administration will automatically remove the vessel's MMSI information from the ITU's database. The vessel will need to apply for a new MMSI upon registration with another flag administration. This includes devices under Section 1 and Section 2.

For AtoN:

Owners of an AtoN shall contact the registry no later than thirty (30) days after a device has been destroyed or discarded if the device is not intended to be replaced. Owners of an AtoN may be contacted annually to confirm continued use of equipment.

Fees:

Section 1:

Registration of MMSI for devices under Section 1 is included in the cost of the Ship Station License.

Section 2:

Registration of MMSI for devices under Section 2 shall incur the following fee:

\$100 One-time registration fee

COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY

- Dominica Maritime Registry requires that maritime devices other than ships, comply with International Standards in order to meet the minimum operational and performance requirements, methods of testing and required test results conforming to performance standards adopted by the IMO in relevant resolutions and guidelines.
- Manufacturers of AIS equipment are required to have a quality control system audited by a competent authority to ensure continuous compliance with the type of approval conditions.
- To protect the unauthorized dissemination of data, the IMO guidelines (Guidelines and Criteria for Ship Reporting Systems Resolution MSC.43(64)) shall be followed.
- The AIS shall be tested for compliance with the environmental, power supply, special-purpose and safety requirements of IMO A.694(17) and IMO Resolution MSC.74(69), Annex 3, Recommendation on performance for AIS

Any questions can be directed to:

Registration Department

Tel: + 1 508 992 7170

E-mail: registration@dominica-registry.com

-End-