

**KPI Information Update IU-41-2013**  
**(IMO Guidance on Radio Communication Equipment used On Board)**

IMO has issued a circular Guidance on the Validity of Radio communications Equipment Installed and Used on Ships. (IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1460)

The World Radio-communication Conference 2012 made extensive changes to appendices 17 and 18 of the RR. Whilst these changes do not affect the GMDSS, they do affect the use of other frequencies that would be used by services such as Port Operations and VTS.

The RR provisions apply as from the dates of application indicated in article 59 and resolution 98 of the RR. Timely action is required by ships to ensure that radio-communication equipment complies with the RR. Replacement of operating hardware may be necessary to meet the changed requirements.

According to the Performance standards for ship-borne VHF radio installations capable of communication and digital selective calling (resolution A.803(19)), the equipment should comply with the Radio Regulations.

Attention is drawn to MSC.1/Circ.1389, which contains Guidance on procedures for updating

ship-borne navigation and communication equipment, and that updates to application software and firmware to meet changes in IMO and ITU regulatory requirements were needed.

To ensure GMDSS communication capability, HF radio-communication equipment capable of operating narrow-band-direct-printing (NBDP) should be updated so that following the first radio survey after 1 January 2017 it meets the channelling arrangements reflected in sections II and III of part B in appendix 17 of the RR.

Radio-communication equipment, other than HF radio-communication equipment capable of operating NBDP, does not necessarily need to be updated by the first radio survey after 1 January 2017, but may be updated appropriately in accordance with the decisions of the Administration.

Member Governments are invited to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate national authorities and all other parties concerned.

