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Ref. T2-OSS/2.7.1

SLS.14/Circ.296  
25 September 2007

**INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974**

**Equivalent arrangements accepted under regulation I/5**

**Nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format**

**Communication by the Government of Denmark**

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to transmit herewith the text of a communication by the Government of Denmark on equivalent arrangements accepted under regulation I/5 of the above Convention.

The Secretary-General would be grateful if steps could be taken to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate authorities.



International Maritime Organization  
4 Albert Embankment  
London SE1 7SR  
United Kingdom

24 September 2007  
Our reference:  
Case 200711127  
File 30.30.06  
Centre for Seafarers and  
Fishermen  
/cgj

**Statement by the Government of Denmark. Equivalence regarding the use of nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format**

**DANISH MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
Vermundsgade 38 C  
DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø

Dear Sirs,

The Government of Denmark has the honour of notifying the Organization that Denmark allows the attached equivalent arrangement to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 as amended, concerning regulations V/19.2.1.4 and V/27.

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The Organization is asked to circulate the particulars of this equivalent arrangement to other Contracting Governments for the information of those in accordance with regulation I/5.

MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AND  
BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Yours sincerely,

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Nautical Adviser  
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Fax direct +45 39 17 44 25  
E-mail cgj@dma.dk

1 enclosure

## STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK

Equivalence regarding the use of nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format.

Regulations V/19.2.1.4 and V/27 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974, as amended, require that all ships carry adequate and up-to-date charts and nautical publications, as defined in regulation V/2.2 of SOLAS 1974, necessary for the intended voyage.

The Government of Denmark gives notification of the acceptance of the following equivalent arrangement on Danish ships under the provision of regulation I/5 of the above Convention:

The Government of Denmark accepts the use of nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format on the condition that they have been issued officially by or on the authority of a Government, authorized Hydrographic Office or other relevant government institution. Furthermore, it is required that:

- The nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format are always available to the Officer of the Watch (OOW). It shall be possible, without limitations, to read and work with the digital data from the bridge.
- The hardware method or system for the use of nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format shall be dedicated to the ship's nautical operational purposes.<sup>1</sup>
- The hardware or system for the use of nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format shall be connected to a power supply regardless of the operational conditions.
- The nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format shall be saved or kept as an additional back-up by a method separated from the main user system so that they can be made available to the OOW within a short period of time.
- The nautical publications and weekly notice to mariners in digital format is protected against editing
- The software is protected from computer viruses, etc.
- The equipment and installation shall comply with the requirements of SOLAS regulation V/17 regarding electromagnetic compatibility. Furthermore, it shall be possible to display the data on a monitor without impairing the OOW's night vision. Moreover, MSC/Circ.1091 on Issues to be considered when introducing new technology on board ship, MSC/Circ.891 on Guidelines for the on board use and application of computers and MSC/Circ.982 on Guidelines on ergonomic criteria for bridge equipment and layout shall be taken into consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> Nautical operational purposes are widely understood as, for example, IMDG information, stability, ballasting, voyage planning, etc.

Additionally, the following requirements shall be met with regard to updating of nautical publications and notice to mariners in digital form:

- Only updates issued officially by or on the authority of a Government, authorized Hydrographic Office or other relevant government institution shall be used.
- It shall be possible on board to electronically receive data for the updating of notice to mariners in digital form at the same interval as presently provided by means of notice to mariners.
- Documentation for the receipt of digital information and the installation of such shall be available on board at any time, by an application storing, recording and reading the received issues, or by another method<sup>2</sup>.
- A procedure for the use of digital notice to mariners for updating nautical publications and charts shall be incorporated into the ship's International Safety Management (ISM) system.

The communication regarding the use of nautical publications in digital form in SLS.14/Circ.229 of 11 November 2004 is revoked by this circular.

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<sup>2</sup> Documentation for the receipt of updates for nautical publications could, for instance, be delivery notes.