23 January 2015

Dear

Compliance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011 - Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) for 15 metre (m) and over vessels

I wrote to you on 8 November 2013 to inform you about the roll out of a new VMS device provided by AST Marine Sciences Ltd. For some years now vessels of 15m and over have been operating a satellite-based vessel monitoring system to comply with EU Regulations.

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is now in a position to accept applications for replacement terminals for vessels over 15m. We are making grant aid available up to a maximum of £2,000.00 for this new device and payment will be made to the approved supplier provided you meet the eligibility criteria. I enclose an application form and further guidance can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/vessel-monitoring-system-devices](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/vessel-monitoring-system-devices). The process is that after AST install the device they invoice the MMO for payment. We will only pay until such time as the grant aid window is open. When forms are received from you we will contact the supplier AST and they should contact you to arrange a time and date for installation. Early application is strongly recommended as the grant aid is strictly limited. **If you do not apply in time to release the grant aid then AST will need to charge you for the device.**

Please note that the existing but old Inmarsat C terminals on board over 15m boats are becoming obsolescent and irreplaceable. We are considering no longer accepting transmissions from these devices although we will write to you well in advance of that happening. Depending on which software system you have for the submission of electronic logbooks the device might also provide a communications capability that enables the submission of electronic logbooks.

In order to apply for grant aid, completed applications must be with us by **20 February 2015** and late applications will not be accepted unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Yours faithfully

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