
Standards of Performance of Radio Equipment required by the Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) Regulations 1998

Notice to Shipowners, Builders, Masters and Officers

This Notice supersedes Notice No. 1680

This Notice specifies the performance standard for radio equipment required to be fitted to ships.

Key Notes:

1. This Notice should be read in conjunction with the Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) regulations 1998 and Merchant Shipping Notice 1693.

1. The Merchant Shipping (Radio Installations) Regulations 1998 came into force on 28 September 1998.
2. Regulation 6(1) specifies that equipment required to be provided under these Regulations shall conform to performance standards not inferior to those adopted by the International maritime Organisation (IMO) by Resolution and shall, in the case of a United Kingdom ship, comply with a relevant performance standard.
3. Where ships comply with the requirements of Part II of these Regulations, the performance standards adopted by the IMO are specified in Annex 1 to this Notice. The performance standards to be complied with in the case of equipment to be provided on United Kingdom ships are specified in Annex 2 to this Notice. These standards are in full agreement with the relevant Resolutions of the IMO.
4. Where ships comply with the requirements of Part III of these Regulations, the minimum standards of performance are specified in Merchant Shipping Notice 1693.

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Item	Equipment ¹	IMO Assembly Resolution	
		Equipment installed before 23 November 1996	Equipment installed on or after 23 November 1996
1	Narrow-band direct printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships	A.525(13)	A.525(13)
2	Narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships (MSI) by HF	A.700(17)	A.700(17)
3	Ship earth stations capable of two-way communications	A.698(17)	A.808(19)
4	Shipborne VHF radio installations capable of voice communication and digital selective calling	A.609(15)	A.803(19) ²
5	Shipborne MF radio installations capable of voice communication and digital selective calling	A.610(15)	A.804(19) ³
6	Shipborne MF/HF radio installations capable of voice communication, narrow-band direct printing and digital selective calling	A.613(15)	A.806(19) ⁴
7	Float-free satellite emergency position- indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) operating on 406 MHz ⁵	A.763(18) ⁷	A.810(19)
8	Survival craft radar transponders for use in search and rescue operations	A.697(17)	A.802(19)
9	Float-free VHF emergency position indicating radio beacons ⁵	A.612(15)	A.805(19)
10	Inmarsat Standard-C ship earth stations capable of transmitting and receiving direct-printing communications	A.663(16)	A.807(19) ⁶
11	Enhanced group call equipment	A.664(16)	A.664(16)
12	Float-free satellite emergency position indicating radio beacons operating through the geostationary satellite system on 1.6 GHz ⁵	A.661(16)	A.812(19)

Notes:

1. All equipment shall conform with the general requirements for shipborne radio equipment forming part of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and for electronic navigational aids, IMO Assembly Resolution A.694(17).
2. Equipment installed on or after 1 January 2001 to conform with the amendments adopted through IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) Resolution MSC (68)68 Annex 1.
3. Equipment installed on or after 1 January 2001 to conform with the amendments adopted through IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) Resolution MSC (68)68 Annex 2.
4. Equipment installed on or after 1 January 2001 to conform with the amendments adopted through IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) Resolution MSC (68)68 Annex 3.
5. Float-free release and activation arrangements for emergency radio equipment shall conform with the Assembly resolution A.662(16).
6. Equipment installed on or after 1 January 2001 to conform with the amendments adopted through IMO Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) Resolution MSC (68)68 Annex 4.
7. Equipment installed before 4 November 1994 may conform with IMO Assembly resolution A.695(17).

Standards of Performance for marine radio equipment to be installed on United Kingdom ships

Installation	IMO Resolution Number	Sub-system	Specifications ^{1,2}
Narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships	A.525(13)	Not applicable	ETS 300:065 September 1992 or MPT 1257
Narrow-band direct-printing telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships (MSI) by HF.	A.700(17)	Not applicable	ETS 300:065 September 1992
Ship earth stations capable of two-way communications ³ INMARSAT 'A' and 'B'	A.808(19)	Not applicable	INMARSAT
Performance standards for float-free release and activation arrangements for emergency radio equipment	A.662(16)	Not applicable	Specification incorporated in equipment standards
Performance standards for enhanced group call equipment	A.664(16)	Not applicable	Specification incorporated in equipment standards for INMARSAT standard-C
Survival craft radar transponders for use in search and rescue operations	A.802(19)	Not applicable	BS EN 61097-1: 1993 or ETS 300:151

Annexe 2

MSN 1714(M+F)

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Installation	IMO Resolution Number	Sub-system	Specifications ^{1,2}
Shipborne VHF radio installations capable of voice communication and digital selective calling	A.803(19)	Transceiver Facility (Fixed)	Draft prETS 300:162 February 1997 Edition 2 or MPT 1252
		Digital Selective Calling Facility	ETS 300:338 November 1995 or MPT 1262
		Watchkeeping Facility	prEN 301:033 May 1997 Edition 1.1.1 ⁴
Shipborne MF radio installations capable of voice communication and digital selective calling	A.804(19)	Transceiver Facility	ETS 300:373 August 1995 or MPT 1217 and 1224.
		Digital Selective Calling Facility	ETS 300:338 November 1995 or MPT 1262
		Watchkeeping Facility	prEN 301:033 May 1997 Edition 1.1.1 ⁴
Shipborne MF/HF radio installations capable of voice communication, narrow-band direct-printing and digital selective calling	A.806(19)	Transceiver Facility	ETS 300:373 August 1995 or MPT 1224
		Digital Selective Calling Facility	ETS 300:338 November 1995 or MPT 1262
		Narrow Band Direct Printing Facility	ETS 300:067 November 1990 or MPT 1257
		Watchkeeping Facility	prEN 301:033 May 1997 Edition 1.1.1 ⁴
Float-free VHF emergency position-indicating radio beacons	A.805(19)	Not applicable	Refer to MCA

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Installation	IMO Resolution Number	Sub-system	Specifications ^{1,2}
Inmarsat standard-C ship earth station capable of Transmitting and Receiving direct printing communications ²	A.807(19)	Not applicable	ETS 300:460 May 1996 or MPT 1260
Performance standard for survival craft two-way VHF radiotelephone apparatus	A.809(19)	Not applicable	ETS 300:225 April 1997 Edition 2 or MPT 1274 and 1277
Float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs) operating on 406 MHz	A.810(19)	Not applicable	ETS 300:066 September 1996 Edition 2 or MPT 1259
Performance standards for a shipborne integrated radiocommunications system (IRCS) when used in the GMDSS	A.811(19)		Tested by inspection on board ship. No type approval.
Float-free satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons operating through the geostationary Inmarsat satellite system on 1.6 GHz ³	A.812(19)	Not applicable	ETS 300:372 May 1996

¹ All equipment must conform to the general requirements for shipborne radio equipment forming part of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and for electronic navigational aids, IMO Assembly Resolution A.694(17) and IEC 60945:1996.

² Irrespective of any approval given to equipment to MPT specifications, the equipment installed is required to conform with the requirements of the relevant IMO performance standards and/or the requirements of the ITU in force, as appropriate.

³ All INMARSAT installations and ancillary equipment are to be of a type approved by INMARSAT.

⁴ Or as incorporated in the DSC facility.

