



To all 12-15m Vessel Owners

19 June 2015

Dear

Electronic fishing logbooks for 12-15m vessels - Compliance with Council Regulation (EC) no.1224/2009 and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) no.404/2011

I last wrote to you on 27 March 2015 to advise you that the MMO was permanently withdrawing the use of paper logbooks for 12-15m vessels from 31 March 2015. This action was taken in order to meet the requirements of the above regulations after a prolonged period of dual running paper logbooks with electronic logbooks (elogs) for 12-15m vessels to enable vessel masters to become familiar with the operation of elogs. The action taken by the MMO means that 12-15m vessels must now be operated only with your installed eelog system.

The required eelog data must be transmitted by one of the methods we have outlined previously and for some eelog systems this includes the option to transmit via the vessel's installed Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) device. For ease of reference, I enclose again the table which outlines the options for transmitting eelog data.

From 1 July 2015, the MMO will be moving to full enforcement of the eelog regulations for 12-15m vessels.

The eelog regulations do make provision for technical failure or non-functioning of eelog systems. This includes the ability to manually report eelog data via the UK call centre from the moment the problem is detected. Further guidance on manual reporting can be found at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-manually-report-electronic-logbook-reports>

It is important to note that, following a technical failure of the eelog, your vessel may only leave port once it is repaired to the satisfaction of a local MMO Marine Officer, or once you have been authorised to do so by your local MMO Marine Officer and manual reporting arrangements have been put in place. If a technical failure occurs on more 3 occasions the MMO will investigate the matter and ensure that the eelog system is thoroughly checked.



Although a lot of good work has been done with industry and system suppliers to improve the operation of the systems, we recognise that some vessel owners may still encounter genuine problems with e-log data transmission. In such circumstances, vessel masters should engage directly with Marine Officers in their local MMO port offices so that we can work with them to overcome such difficulties in the most efficient way.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "Ray Hedley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ray Hedley
Head of Electronic Reporting Systems

D +44 (0)191 376 2537

E ray.hedley@marinemanagement.org.uk

Methods of communicating e-logbook data

Data Created	Data is transmitted by email to the ERS hub by any chosen method	Data received and acknowledged
Data input into ELSS	<p>1. Email is sent by GSM technology using a mobile dongle from a network provider which plugs into side of on-board laptop using a USB connection.</p> <p><i>Signal can be variable and depends on network coverage in your area. Vessels working offshore outside of GSM range may have to use alternative communications. (see options below)</i></p>	Data Reaches the Hub
	<p>2. Email is sent using alternative Satellite communications. This will require a satellite communications system separate to VMS.</p> <p><i>Good coverage although more expensive than GSM</i></p>	
	<p>3. Email is sent by connecting to a wifi hotspot which can be generated by a smart phone. This has been successful in some areas although signal and availability can vary by the type of phone, the provider and the contract type.</p>	
	<p>4. Email is sent from VMS device which may have capability to send messages either by GSM or Satellite depending on coverage.</p> <p><i>(Not yet compatible with all ELSS. When compatible it will always transmit elog data by cheapest available option i.e. 3G if in range.)</i></p>	
<p>If ELSS fails to function you should contact your supplier and if a fix is not immediate notify your local MMO office</p>		

ERS: Electronic Reporting Systems
 ELSS: Electronic Logbook Software Systems
 VMS: Vessel Monitoring Systems