

PART A

CHAPTER 7

CARGO SHIP SAFETY RADIO CERTIFICATE

7.1 Legal Requirements

7.1.1 The requirements for survey and certification in order to apply SOLAS chapter IV are contained in the Merchant Shipping (Survey and Certification) Regulations 1995, SI 1995/1210, as amended. These regulations are to be read in association with MSN's 1613 and 1751. The regulations apply to UK cargo ships and to other cargo ships whilst in UK waters.

7.2 Definitions

7.2.1 Definitions of terms relating to cargo ship radio installations and surveys related to the issuance of a Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate are described in SIs 1995/1210 and 1997/1509, as amended. Reference should also be made to MGN 392(M+F).

7.3 Responsibility

7.3.1 MCA is the ultimate authority responsible for issue of Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificates on behalf of the Secretary of State. Although MCA has delegated the authority to conduct surveys and issue Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificates to its Recognised Organisations (RO) for vessels that are classed, as documented in MGN 392, MCA still remains responsible to ensure that all aspects of surveys and certification process are carried out satisfactorily. In general practice Classification Societies which act as MCA Recognised Organisations delegate the functions of initial, periodical and renewal surveys of radio installations to approved consultant companies or individuals who have the required expertise and know-how of radio installations and applicable regulations. In the case of un-classed cargo ships authorised persons conduct the surveys and issue certificates prepared by MCA Survey Operations Branch. Further details on authorisation can be found in MGN 392.

7.4 Surveys Required

7.4.1 The Harmonised System of Survey and Certification (HSSC) applies requiring:

- **Initial Survey,**
- **Periodical Survey,**
- **Renewal Survey.**

7.5 Pre-Survey Actions

7.5.1 Under normal circumstances MCA does not carry out surveys for the issue of a Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate and almost all survey work is delegated to Recognised Organisations or Authorised Persons. Authorised Persons are listed on the MCA external website.

7.6 Items to be Surveyed

7.6.1 The MS (Survey and Certification) Regulations 1995, SI 1995/1210 Regulation 6 requires surveys of the ship's radio equipment in accordance with MSN 1751 and the detailed technical requirements of the MS (Radio Installations) Regulations 1998; SI 1998/ 2070, as amended. IMO Resolution A.1053(27), as amended, details the items to be covered.

7.7 Post Survey Actions

7.7.1 Deficiencies, Declaration and Certificates

7.7.1.1 The post survey actions relating to deficiencies, issue of certificates and documentation and records that are to be taken by surveyors acting on behalf of Class or authorised persons are detailed in MGN 392 (M+F).

7.7.1.2 On completion of a periodical survey by an authorised person on an unclassified cargo vessel, a copy of the signed endorsement should be placed on the CM 44/17 file by Survey Operations Branch (see MGN 392, paragraph 7.4). The electronic (E-forms) version of the certificate should also be updated accordingly.

7.7.1.3 On receipt of the appropriate declaration from an Authorised Person for an unclassified cargo ship, Survey Operations Branch will prepare the Certificate, following the guidance in Part C Chapter 3 of these instructions.

7.7.1.4 When satisfactory surveys have been completed a **Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate** (MSF 1819) should be issued, valid for a period not exceeding five years from the date of expiry of the existing certificate.

7.7.2 Review of exemptions

7.7.2.1 Any exemption or equivalents that are requested to be re-issued by MCA must be reviewed to ensure they are still current and that the qualifying conditions are complied with. Guidance on exemptions and equivalents are described in Part B Chapter 4 of these instructions.

7.7.3 Documentation and Records

7.7.3.1 The table below describes the minimum documents to be completed and filed by Survey Operations Branch following a survey of an unclassified cargo ship by an Authorised Person.

Item	Record
Record on SIAS?	Yes
Place copy on registered file, CM.../44/17	Yes Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate Authorised Persons Declaration Relevant test reports/ results Drawings Photographs Exemptions
Minute required on registered file?	No
Report Class issues to Survey Operations Branch?	No

7.7.4 Fees

7.7.4.1 For Classified vessels Recognised Organisations and Authorised Persons directly charge owners for the survey and certification work without involvement of the MCA. In the case of un-classed vessels, Authorised Persons charge owners for the survey including an administration charge to cover MCA's checking of the survey report; Survey Operations Branch at HQ process the invoice to the authorised person.

7.8 Flow chart

None.

7.9 Special Instructions and guidance

7.9.1 These instructions to surveyors are primarily intended to appraise surveyors from a Port State Inspection and General Inspection perspective and awareness of the general requirements for the issue of Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate. Under all normal circumstances, approval of plans, equipments, survey work and certification shall be delegated to ROs or Authorised Persons.

7.10 References

7.10.1 Note that the Instructions for the Guidance of Surveyors on 'Radio Installations on GMDSS Ships' was withdrawn on 1 September 2010. Guidance on any issues relating to radio installations can be sought from Navigation Safety Branch.

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