

Resolution A.700(17)
Adopted on 6 November 1991
(Agenda item 10)

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR NARROW-BAND DIRECT-PRINTING
TELEGRAPH EQUIPMENT FOR THE RECEPTION OF NAVIGATIONAL
AND METEOROLOGICAL WARNINGS AND URGENT
INFORMATION TO SHIPS (MSI) BY HF**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety,

NOTING resolution A.420(XI) on the development of the maritime distress and safety system which recommends that Administrations should introduce narrow-band direct-printing (NBDP) broadcasts for the promulgation of navigational and meteorological warnings to shipping,

NOTING FURTHER resolution A.525(13) on performance standards for NBDP telegraph equipment for the reception of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships on the frequency 518 kHz,

CONSIDERING that high-frequency (HF) NBDP broadcasts may be used in the global maritime distress and safety system (GMDSS),

HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendation made by the Maritime Safety Committee at its fifty-eighth session,

1. ADOPTS the Performance Standards for Narrow-Band Direct-Printing Telegraph Equipment for the Reception of Navigational and Meteorological Warnings and Urgent Information to Ships (MSI) by HF, set out in the annex to the present resolution;
2. RECOMMENDS Governments to ensure that equipment for the reception of NBDP broadcasts of navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships (MSI) by HF conforms to performance standards not inferior to those specified in the annex to the present resolution;
3. RECOMMENDS FURTHER Governments to allow ships carrying MF/HF radio installations in accordance with resolution A.613(15) to use such equipment in lieu of equipment complying with the standard specified in the annex to the present resolution, until the GMDSS is fully implemented in accordance with regulations IV/1.5.2 and IV/1.6 of the 1988 amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974.

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AND METEOROLOGICAL WARNINGS AND URGENT
INFORMATION TO SHIPS (MSI) BY HF**

- 1 The equipment should conform to the provisions of CCIR Recommendation 688 applicable to shipborne equipment and, in addition, to the provisions given in the following paragraphs.
- 2 The equipment should be capable of producing a printed copy of received information. The equipment functions should include signal reception, processing, printing and the means to control the frequency of the radio receiver both manually and automatically.
- 3 Details of the coverage areas and message categories which have been excluded by the operator from reception should be readily available.
- 4 The receiver should operate on the frequencies prescribed by the Radio Regulations for the system.
- 5 The equipment should be provided with a facility to test that the radio receiver, signal processor and printing device are functioning correctly.
- 6 The equipment should be capable of internally storing at least 255 message identifications. After between 60 and 72 h a message identification should automatically be erased from the store. If the number of received message identifications exceeds the capacity of the store, the oldest message identification should be erased.
- 7 Only message identifications which have been satisfactorily received should be stored; a message is satisfactorily received if the character-error ratio is below 4%.
- 8 The receipt of search and rescue information should give an alarm at the position from which the ship is normally navigated. It should be possible only to reset this alarm manually.
- 9 Information for location (B1)* and message (B2)* designators in programmable memories should not be erased by interruptions in the power supply of less than 6 h.
- 10 The receiver sensitivity should be equal to or better than $6 \mu\text{V}$ e.m.f. at the receiver input to produce an NBDP output character-error rate of not greater than 10^{-2} .
- 11 The printing device should be able to print at least 32 characters per line.
- 12 If automatic line feed entails division of a word, this shall be indicated in the written text. The printing device should automatically feed paper after completing the printed message.
- 13 The equipment should print an asterisk if a character is received mutilated.
- 14 A UTC clock, accurate to at least one second, and associated with a reprogrammable memory which contains the frequency sequence and UTC broadcast schedules of all stations, should control the HF receiver to provide automatic MSI reception.

* See CCIR Recommendation 540.