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Ref. T2-OSS/2.6

COMSAR.1/Circ.50/Rev.1
16 March 2011

**DISTRESS PRIORITY COMMUNICATIONS FOR RCC
FROM SHORE-TO-SHIP VIA INMARSAT**

1 The Sub-Committee on Radiocommunications and Search and Rescue (COMSAR), at its fifteenth session (7 to 11 March 2011), noted the updated information provided by Inmarsat on Rescue Coordination Centres (RCCs) associated with Inmarsat Land Earth Stations (LESs). The Sub-Committee further noted the information provided by IMSO on practical and simplified means for MRCCs to initiate distress-priority shore-to-ship calls when appropriate. The existing COMSAR.1/Circ.50 was revised accordingly, as presented in this revision of the circular.

2 Some RCCs have established arrangements whereby they are able to use the distress priority when sending certain messages from shore-to-ship via the Inmarsat network. The method of achieving this varies depending on the nature of the facilities available at both a Land Earth Station (LES) and an RCC. Inmarsat believes that such arrangements can contribute significantly to the efficiency and effectiveness of search and rescue operations.

3 In order for an RCC to make use of the distress priority in the shore-to-ship direction, it is necessary for that RCC to establish a prior arrangement with the LES to set up the necessary traffic routing arrangements. To enable this arrangement to be made, the RCC should contact the LES via the Operations Coordinator for that LES, whose details are contained in COMSAR.1/Circ.53 or a later revision of that circular. The LES will advise the RCC on the specific procedures to be used to make use of the distress priority in the shore-to-ship direction via that LES. To provide for priority access to the relevant LES an RCC may make arrangements such as:

- .1 two stage voice dialling; or
- .2 installing a private leased line or some other system giving direct access to the LES network, where the required vessel number can be dialled and priority for space segment attached; or
- .3 other suitable arrangements similar to those outlined above.

4 To facilitate contacts between RCCs and LESs, detailed updated information on RCCs has been provided by Inmarsat and is given in the annex.

5 Member Governments are invited to bring this revised circular to the attention of their SAR authorities and RCCs recommending them to establish appropriate arrangements for the use of distress priority communications from shore-to-ship when necessary.

6 Member Governments are also invited to ask RCCs to keep Inmarsat updated with any changes that may occur to their contact details from time to time. The Inmarsat contact e-mail address is: maritime_safety@inmarsat.com.

ANNEX

LIST OF RCCs ASSOCIATED WITH INMARSAT LAND EARTH STATIONS (LESS) AS AT 1 JANUARY 2011

No.	LES	Country	Ocean Region(s)	Address	Contact Details
1	Auckland	New Zealand	POR	Australian Maritime Safety Authority Level 2, 82 Northbourne Avenue GPO Box 2181 BRADDON ACT 2612 Australia	Tel.: +61 2 6230 6811 Fax: +61 2 6230 6868 E-mail: rccaus@amsa.gov.au
2	Aussaguel	France	AOR-E AOR- W IOR	CROSS Gris-Nez Audinghen F-62179 WISSANT France	Tel.: +33 3 21 87 21 87 Fax: +33 3 21 87 78 55 Telex: +42 130680 CROSS GN E-mail: gris-nez@mrc CFR.eu Inmarsat-C: 422799256
3	Beijing	China	IOR POR	11 Jianguomennei Ave Beijing China 100736	Tel.: +86 10 652 92221 Fax: +86 10 652 92245 Telex: +85 222258 CMSAR CN E-mail: cnmrcc@msa.gov.cn
4	Burum	The Netherlands	AOR-E AOR-W IOR	Netherlands Coastguard P.O. Box 10000 Den Helder 1780 CA The Netherlands	Tel.: +31 9 000 111, +31 223 542 300 Fax: +31 223 658 358 Telex: 44 71088 KUSTW NL E-mail: ccc@kustwacht.nl
5	Eik	Norway	AOR-E AOR-W IOR	Flyplassveien 190 N-4050 Sola Norway	Tel.: +47 51517000 (Alarm), +47 51646000 Fax: +47 51652334 E-mail: operations@jrcc-stavanger.no
6	Fucino	Italy	AOR-E AOR-W IOR	Italian Coast Guard Viale dell'Arte, 16 Rome I-00144 Italy	Tel.: +39 6 592 3569/4145 Fax: +39 6 592 2737/590 84793 Telex: +43 611172, 61456 COGECAP I E-mail: ufficio3.reparto3@mit.gov.it

No.	LES	Country	Ocean Region(s)	Address	Contact Details
7	Burum (ex Goonhilly services)	The Netherlands	AOR-E AOR-W IOR	MRCC Falmouth, Pendennis Point, Castle Drive Falmouth, Cornwall TR11 4WZ United Kingdom	Tel.: +44 1326 317575 Fax: +44 1326 315610 E-mail: falmouthcoastguard@mcga.gov.uk
8	Hai Phong	Vietnam	IOR POR	5th Floor, Vinamarine Building No 8, Phan Hung Str. Mai Dich Ward Cau Giay District Hanoi, Vietnam	Tel.: +84 4 768 3050 Fax: +84 4 768 3048 E-mail: vmrcc@fpt.vn
9	Kumsan	Republic of Korea	IOR POR	Korea Coast Guard 3-8 Songdo-Dong Yeonsu-Gu Incheon 406 741 Republic of Korea	Tel.: +82 32 8352352 Fax: +82 32 8589595 Telex: +801 24920 ROKNP K E-mail: mrcckorea@kcg.go.kr
10	Lakhadaria	Algeria	AOR-E	CNOSS Alger Algeria	Tel.: +213 021 430 178 Fax: +213 021 437 108 E-mail: mrccalgiers@mdn.dz
11	Nakhodka	Russian Federation	POR	State Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre Nizhne-Portovaya Str. 3 Vladivostok 690019 Russian Federation	Tel.: +7 4232 495522, 227782 Fax: +7 4232 495895 Telex: +64 213115 MRF RU E-mail: vldvmrcc@vld.pma.ru
12	Nudol	Russian Federation	AOR-E IOR	State Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre Bldg 3/6 Petrovka Str. Moscow 125993 Russian Federation	Tel.: +7 495 626 1052 Fax: +7 495 623 7476 E-mail: od_smrcc@morflot.ru
13	Perth	Australia	IOR POR	Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Level 2, 82 Northbourne Avenue GPO Box 2181 BRADDON ACT 2612 Australia	Tel.: +61 2 6230 6811 Fax: +61 2 6230 6868 E-mail: rccaus@amsa.gov.au

No.	LES	Country	Ocean Region(s)	Address	Contact Details
14	Pune	India	IOR	MRCC Mumbai Headquarters Indian Coast Guard Region (West) Worli Sea Face - PO Mumbai - 400030 India	Tel.: +91 22 24388065 / 24316558 Fax: +91 22 2431 6558 Telex: +81 1171381 BMCG IN E-mail: indsar@vsnl.net icgmrc_mumbai@mtnl.net.in mrcc-west@indiancoastguard.nic.in
15	Santa Paula	United States	POR	Pac Area Command Central Building 51-2, Coast Guard Island Alameda CA 94501-5100 United States	Tel.: +1 510 4373700 Fax: +1 510 437 3017 Telex: +230 172343 AAB CG ALDA E-mail: rccalameda@uscg.mil
16	Sentosa	Singapore	IOR POR	POCC, 21 st Storey Tanjong Pagar Complex 7B Keppel Rd. Singapore 089055 Singapore	Tel.: +65 622 65539, 632 52493, 632 52394 Fax: +65 622 79971, 622 45776 Telex: +87 20021 RS20021 E-mail: pocc@mpa.gov.sg
17	Southbury	United States	AOR-E AOR-W	Commander (ACC) Atlantic Area US Coast Guard 431 Crawford St. Portsmouth VA 23704 United States	Tel: +1 757 398 6231 Fax: +1 757 398 6392 E-mail: d05-smb-CAA-LANT30cc@uscg.mil
18	Thermopylae*	Greece	AOR-E IOR	Ministry of Citizen Protection Hellenic Coast Guard JRCC Piraeus Gate E1-E2 Akti Vasiliadi GR 18510 Piraeus Greece	Tel.: +30 210 411 2500, 422 0772 Fax: +30 210 413 2398, 411 5798 Telex: +601 0211588 RCC GR +601 0211254 RCC GR E-mail: jrccpgr@yen.gr
19	Yamaguchi	Japan	IOR POR	Operations Centre 2-1-3 Kasumigaseki Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8918 Japan	Tel.: +81 3 359 19000 Fax: +81 3359 182701 E-mail: op@kaiho.mlit.go.jp

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