

Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 07-24

To: Owners/Operators, Masters, Nautical Inspectors, Recognized Organizations

Subject: 2024 GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM ROLLOVER EVENT

Date: 5 August 2024

A Global Positioning System (GPS) time/date rollover event is scheduled to take place on 8 September 2024. The GPS rollover occurs when the system resets its week number counter every 19.6 years which may cause some GPS units to produce data that is 19.6 years in the past, generating errors in both the GPS position and date.

The following Japan Radio Company (JRC) equipment models may be affected by the upcoming GPS rollover event and may require either a software upgrade or replacement:

- JRC JUE-500 (Inmarsat Fleet Broadband FB500)
- JRC JLR-7500 (GPS Navigator)
- JRC JLR-7600 (GPS Navigator)
- JRC JLR-4331W (GPS Receiver)
- JRC JLR-4340 (GPS Receiver)
- JRC JLR-20 (GPS Compass)
- JRC JLR-30 (GPS Compass)

The Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) requests that:

1. Vessel owners and operators:

- contact their GPS manufacturers to determine if the equipment onboard their vessels will require a service technician to update the software or replace the equipment; and
- rectify the GPS equipment issue at the first available opportunity, but no later than 30 August 2024.

2. Vessel Masters:

- make appropriate entries in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System and Deck Logbooks; and
- keep boarding pilots and port State control advised if the discrepancy exists on their vessels.

The Administrator will issue dispensation letters, as necessary, for GPS units malfunctioning as the result of the rollover event. Please contact the Administrator at radio@register-iri.com for a dispensation letter or additional information.

This MSA is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.