

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

## MARITIME ADMINISTRATOR

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### MARINE SAFETY ADVISORY No. 02-25

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

**Subject: INSTALLATION, USE, AND UPDATING OF RADIO EQUIPMENT**

**Date: 23 January 2025**

This Marine Safety Advisory (MSA) supersedes MSA No. 11-23.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has published IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1676](#), *Delays Affecting the Availability of New GMDSS Equipment Compliance with the Revised Performance Standards in IMO Resolutions [MSC.511\(105\)](#), [MSC.512\(105\)](#), and [MSC.513\(105\)](#).*

Accordingly, until **1 January 2028**, the Republic of the Marshall Islands Maritime Administrator (the “Administrator”) will permit the continued installation of:

1. shipborne VHF radio installations conforming to performance standards not inferior to those specified in IMO Resolution [A.803\(19\)](#), as amended by [MSC.68\(68\)](#);
2. shipborne MF and MF/HF radio installations conforming to performance standards not inferior to those specified in IMO Resolutions [A.804\(19\)](#), as amended by [MSC.68\(68\)](#); and [A.806\(19\)](#), as amended by [MSC.68\(68\)](#); and
3. Inmarsat-C ship earth stations conforming to performance standards not inferior to those specified in IMO Resolution [A.807\(19\)](#), as amended by [MSC.68\(68\)](#).

The IMO has also advised all vessels to ensure that they update their VHF equipment following the first radio survey after **1 January 2028**, at the earliest, so it meets the arrangements that will be in force. See IMO Circular [MSC.1/Circ.1460/Rev.4](#).

On 13 December 2024, IMO issued Circular [COMSAR.1/Circ.32/Rev.3](#), *Harmonization of GMDSS Requirements for Radio Installations On Board SOLAS Ships*. The revised Circular clarifies that a single MF/HF radio installation may be accepted both as a primary MF radio installation and a duplicated MF/HF radio installation for ships operating in sea area A3. Shipowners and operators are advised to refer to the table and footnotes in §2.3 for all ships to which SOLAS Chapter IV applies.

For questions about updating radiocommunications equipment, the Administrator may be contacted at: [radio@register-iri.com](mailto:radio@register-iri.com).

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is evaluated annually by the Administrator and expires one year after its issuance or renewal unless otherwise noted, superseded, or revoked.