INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Radiocommunication Bureau
(Direct Fax N°. +41 22 730 57 85)

Circular Letter   14 September 2006
    CM/15

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: ITU maritime services database - Incorporation of information concerning multiple
                    EPIRB HEX ID codes

References: Circular letter CM/10 of 19 July 2000
                    Note to the Director, BR from Working Party 8B dated 21 June 2006

To the Director-General

Dear Sir or Madam,

1. The Bureau wishes to inform Administrations that the structure of the ITU ship station database
   has been modified in order to incorporate information concerning multiple EPIRB (Emergency
   Position Indicating Radio Beacons) HEX ID codes.

2. In this context a new data field (Field 32 – EPIRB HEX ID code) has been created and
   Administrations are requested to take note of the following:

   a. The HEX code has a length of 15 characters and is composed of the numerical
      values 0 (zero) to 9 (nine) and the letters A to F.

   b. All data, notified in this field, that does not conform to the above shall be rejected.

   c. With the introduction of this new field, the current field for notifying the EPIRB Id
      code (i.e. Field 23 – EPIRB Identification code), should <u>only</u> be used to notify either
      the MMSI number or the combination of the MID+call sign.

   d. In accordance with the note from Working Party 8B to the Director BR, dated
      21 June 2006, Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs) information should not be notified.

   e. In order to facilitate the retrieval of ship stations that have been notified with the
      EPIRB HEX ID code, a new search method has been implemented on the ITU
      MARS web page.

3. In addition, the Bureau also wishes to inform Administrations that Field 31 (Ship's Radio installation) has been enlarged to accommodate up to 100 characters.

4. The Bureau herewith annexes a revised version of the paper notification form and the description of the electronic format which are also available on the ITU MARS web page at:
   http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/forms/index.html

5. Administrations are invited to notify the full station characteristics of a licensed ship station, even though many of the requested fields are not mandatory. This would enable the Bureau to provide Search and Rescue Centers with more complete data of a vessel that may be found in a distress situation.

6. The Bureau remains at the disposal of Administrations for any further information and clarifications they may need in respect to these matters. The Bureau's contact person for these matters is Mr A.M. DAS, telephone: +41 22 7305007, fax: +41 22 7305785, e-mail: brmail@itu.int

Yours faithfully,

Valery Timofeev
Director
Radiocommunication Bureau

Annexes:
- Paper notification form (ref. TPR/NAV_1)
- Data format for electronic notification (ref. TPR/NAV_2)
- Note to the Director, BR from Working Party 8B

NOTIFICATION FORM

(SHIP STATIONS)

Radio Regulations (RR) Article 20 and Resolution 340 (WRC-97)

Field	Field Name	
AC*	Action Code	
1*#	Ship (Vessel) Name	
2**#	Call Sign	
3	Selective Call Number(s)	
4**#	MMSI Number	
5#	Inmarsat Number(s)	
6	NTLX Number	
7*#	Notifying Administration	
8	Territory or Geographical Area code	
9	Life Boats	
10	Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)	
11#	General Classification	
12	Individual Classification	
13	Nature of Service	
14	Services Available	
15	Service Hours	
16	Telegraph transmission frequency bands	
17	Telephone transmission frequency bands	
18	Accounting Authority Identification Code -AAIC	
19	AAIC used for Inmarsat Communications	
20	Owner Name	
21	Ex Ship-Name	
22	Ex Call Sign	
23#	EPIRB Identification code	**(Either the MMSI or MID+Call sign)**
24#	Vessel Identification number	
25#	Gross Tonnage	
26#	Emergency Contact Person ashore	Name & Address
27#		Phone
28#		Telefax
29#	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number	
30#	Capacity for persons on board	
31#	Ship's radio installation	
32	**EPIRB HEX ID CODE (one or multiple) separate Occurrences with comma(,)**	

* Mandatory fields
# Information as specified in Resolution 340 (WRC-97)
** Either one or both of the items is to be provided.

Notifications should be addressed to:

- **For Notification forms, diskettes, telefax, mail, etc.**

The Director of Radiocommunication Bureau-ITU
Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland
(Direct Telefax. No.: +41 22 730 5785)

- **For Electronic mail (email)**

brmail@itu.int

AC*	Action Code	Indicates the action to be performed: A – add a new station M – modify particulars of an existing station S – suppress an existing station
1*#	Ship (Vessel) Name	Refer to the Preface of List V.
2**#	Call Sign	Conforming to Appendix S42 and the call sign formation of Article S19 of the Radio Regulations.
3	Selective Call Number(s)	First character (shaded) to be either a **S** or **T**. Please refer to the Preface in List V.
4**#	Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) Number	MMSI is a nine digit unique identification number assigned by Administrations to their ship stations. The first three digits represent the MID allocated to that Administration.
5#	Inmarsat Number(s)	Inmarsat ship earth station identities or numbers are recorded as given by the Administrations.
		Tenth (10th) character (shaded) can be either one of the following symbols:
		- or / .
		The - symbol defines a range (e.g.) 426456788-98
		The / symbol to be used when last two or 3 digits differ (e.g.) 426456788/793
6	NTLX Number	National Telex Number, where applicable.
7*#	Notifying Administration	Administration responsible for the registration of the ship.
8	Territory or Geographical Area code	Where applicable.
9	Life Boats	Number of life boats.
10	Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)	Refer to the Preface of List V.
11#	General Classification	Refer to the Preface of List V (Table 2).
12	Individual Classification	See above.
13	Nature of Service	Refer to the Preface in List V.
14	Services Available	Refer to the Preface in List V.
15	Service Hours	Refer to the Preface in List V.
16	Telegraph transmission frequency bands	Refer to the Preface in List V.
17	Telephone transmission frequency bands	Refer to the Preface in List V.
18	Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC)	Refer to the Preface in List V.
19	AAIC used for Inmarsat Communications	If a separate entity from above.
20	Owner name	Refer to the Preface in List V.
21	Ex Ship-Name	Refer to the Preface in List V.
22	Ex Call Sign	Refer to the Preface in List V.
23#	EPIRB Identification code	The identification code of the EPIRBs **either :** **MMSI or a combination of MID+Call sign.**
24#	Vessel Identification number	IMO number or national registration number.
25#	Gross Tonnage	Total enclosed space or internal capacity of a vessel, calculated in the terms of "tons" of 100 cubic feet each.
26#	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Name & Address)	Name and Address of emergency contact person ashore. As given by Administrations.
27#	Phone Number	Telephone number of emergency contact person ashore. As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code.
28#	Fax Number	Telefax number of emergency contact person ashore. As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code.
29#	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number	As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code.
30#	Capacity for persons on board	As given by Administrations. Total number of passengers and crew.
31#	Ship's radio installation	Inmarsat A, B, C, M, VHF, digital selective calling (DSC) , etc.
32	**EPIRB HEX ID CODE (one or multiple)** **separate Occurrences with comma (,)**	To be used **exclusively** to notify one or multiple Hex Id codes. The ONLY characters accepted are **0** to **9** and **A** to **F**

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*   Mandatory fields
\#   Information as specified in Resolution 340 (WRC-97)
**   Either one or both of the items is to be provided.

DATA FORMAT FOR ELECTRONIC NOTIFICATION

(SHIP STATIONS)

Radio Regulations (RR) Article 20 and Resolution 340 (WRC-97)

Field	Field Name	Length (Max.)	Occurrences (Max.)	Remarks
AC*	Action Code	1	1	Indicates the action to be performed: A – add a new station M – modify particulars of an existing station S – suppress an existing station
1*#	Ship (Vessel) Name	50	1	Refer to the Preface of List V.
2**#	Call Sign	7	1	Conforming to Appendix S42 and the call sign formation of Article S19 of the Radio Regulations.
3	Selective Call Number(s)	12+1	2	Maximum Length of an **occurrence** is 6.
4**#	Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) Number	9	1	MMSI is a nine digit unique identification number assigned by Administrations to their ship stations. The first three digits represent the MID allocated to that Administration.
5#	Inmarsat Number(s)	104+7	8	Inmarsat ship earth station identities or numbers are recorded as given by the Administration. Maximum Length of an **occurrence** is 13.
6	NTLX Number	5	1	National telex number, where applicable.
7*#	Notifying Administration	3	1	Administration responsible for the registration of the ship.
8	Territory or Geographical Area code	3	1	Where applicable.
9	Life Boats	2	1	Number of life boats.
10	Radio Beacons (EPIRBs)	9	1	Refer to the Preface of List V.
11#	General Classification	2	1	Refer to the Preface of List V (Table 2).
12	Individual Classification	6+1	2	See above. Maximum length of an **occurrence** is 3.
13	Nature of Service	4+1	2	Refer to the Preface in List V. Maximum Length of an **occurrence** is 2.
14	Services Available	5	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
15	Service Hours	3	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
16	Telegraph transmission frequency bands	5	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
17	Telephone transmission frequency bands	4	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
18	Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC)	4	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
19	AAIC used for Inmarsat Communications	4	1	If a separate entity from above.
20	Owner Name	50	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
21	Ex Ship-Name	50	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
22	Ex Call Sign	7	1	Refer to the Preface in List V.
23#	EPIRB Identification code	10	1	The identification code of the EPIRBs **either :** **MMSI or a combination of MID+Call sign.**
24#	Vessel Identification number	7	1	IMO number or national registration number.
25#	Gross Tonnage	7	1	Total enclosed space or internal capacity of a vessel, calculated in the terms of "tons" of 100 cubic feet each.
26#	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Name & Address)	200	1	Name and Address of emergency contact person ashore. As given by Administrations..
27#	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Phone)	15	1	Telephone number of emergency contact person ashore As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code.
28#	Emergency Contact Person ashore (Telefax)	15	1	Telefax number of emergency contact person ashore. As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code.
29#	Alternative 24-hour emergency telephone number	15	1	As given by Administrations and prefixed with country destination code.
30#	Capacity for persons on board	4	1	As given by Administrations. Total number of passengers and crew.
31#	Ship's radio installation	**100**	1	Inmarsat A, B, C, M, VHF, digital selective calling (DSC) , etc.
32	**EPIRB HEX ID CODE (one or multiple) separate Occurrences with comma (,)**	**225+14**	15	To be used **exclusively** to notify one or multiple Hex Id codes. The ONLY characters accepted are **0** to **9** and **A** to **F**

*   Mandatory fields
\#   Information as specified in Resolution 340 (WRC-97)
** Either one or both of the items is to be provided.

TPR/NAV_2
September 2006

Notifications should be addressed to:

▪ **For Notification forms, diskettes, telefax, mail, etc.**

The Director of Radiocommunication Bureau-ITU
Place des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland
(Direct Telefax. No.: +41 22 730 5785)

▪ **For Electronic mail (email)**

brmail@itu.int

Electronic Notification Format

Format: **ASCII text file**
Field delimiter: **Semicolon (;)**
Occurrence delimiter: **Comma (,)**

STRUCTURE OF RECORD LAYOUT:

Column 1: Field.	-	Indicates the order in which data is to be notified.
Column 2: Field Name	-	The name of the field.
Column 3: Length (Max.)	-	Indicates the maximum number of characters in each field.
Column 4: Occurrences (Max.) -		The following fields may contain more than one value. Each value is to be separated with the Occurrence delimiter

i.e. Comma (,)

Field 3	-	Selective Call Number(s)
Field 5	-	INMARSAT Number(s)
Field 12	-	Individual Classification
Field 13	-	Nature of Service
Field 32	-	EPIRB ID HEX Code

Column 5: Remarks	-	Useful information.

Rules:

1   Each field is to be separated using the Field delimiter (;).
2   The field delimiter (i.e. Semi-colon (;)) should not be used in any field.
3   No field should exceed the maximum length allocated to it (refer to the Length (Max.) in the Record Layout).
4   Only codes, mentioned in the Preface to List V, for each field will be accepted.
5   The order in which the fields are mentioned in the attached Record Layout should **ALWAYS** be respected.

e.g. A**;**shipname**;**callsign**;**

6   Field delimiters should be used even if there is no data for a given field.

e.g. A;BLUE NOMAD;WAK8704;;303601000;;;USA;ALS;;;PL;VLR;CP;;HX;S;STV;;…...

7   The Occurrence delimiter should be used when more than one value is notified for the fields mentioned above

e.g. A;BLUE MARLIN;3FOP5;S42518;355725000;435572510,635572510;;PNR;;;;MM;CON;CP;;

8   Ship name should be notified in **UPPER** case only
9   No accented characters are to be used in a ship name.
10   Do not include the call sign with the name, even if there are several stations with the same name (the call sign is included automatically in those cases).
11   Roman numbers at the beginning of a ship name should be preceded by a dollar sign ($) and followed by a space and the rest of the ship name. If the dollar sign is omitted, the numerical value of the roman number will not be considered in sorting order.

e.g. $XXVI SEIZED KPPS

12   The sign # should never be used to indicate "number". Use instead abbreviation **NO.**

e.g. DESPATCH NO.2

In order to avoid any discrepancy in the station data, it is requested to ALWAYS notify the full station particulars for Action Code (M) - Modification and Action Code (A) - Addition.

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

**RADIOCOMMUNICATION
STUDY GROUPS**

21 June 2006

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Working Party 8B

NOTE TO THE DIRECTOR, RADIOCOMMUNICATION BUREAU

Related to the incorporation of information into the ITU maritime services database

Further to Resolution 340 (Need for additional search and rescue information in databases) and BR Circular letters CM/6 dated 27 February 1998, CM/9 dated 16 April 1999 and CM/10 dated 19 July 2000, Working Party 8B kindly invites the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau to consider the incorporation of information concerning multiple EPIRB HEX ID codes into the ITU maritime services database. This information is described in the attached document 8B/351.

This modification to the database would be for multiple EPIRBs (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons) information on vessels. The modification to the database would not be for PLBs (Personal Locator Beacons) information.

Attachment: 8B/351

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Attention: The information contained in this document is temporary in nature and does not necessarily represent material that has been agreed by the group concerned. Since the material may be subject to revision during the meeting, caution should be exercised in using the document for the development of any further contribution on the subject.