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## **Terrestrial Services Department**

### **ITU SERVICE PUBLICATIONS (MARITIME)**

#### **Summary**

This document deals with the maritime related ITU Service Publications and informs readers of their background and also gives a brief description of the publications "List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations (List IV)", "List of Ship Stations and Maritime Mobile Service Identity Assignments (List V)" and the Manual for use by the Maritime Mobile and Maritime Mobile-Satellite Services. It also describes how administrations should notify amendments to these Lists and how they may order these publications.

#### **Introduction**

ITU Service Publications are prepared and issued by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in accordance with the provisions of Article **20** of the Radio Regulations (RR). The maritime related ITU Service Publications are:

- List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations (**List IV**);
- List of Ship Stations and Maritime Mobile Service Identity Assignments (**List V**);
- Manual for use by the Maritime Mobile and Maritime Mobile-Satellite Services.

The above-mentioned publications have been conceived and structured, keeping in mind the needs of mariners for their communications and safety whilst at sea. They provide information deemed essential for proper and safe functioning of radiocommunications services and additionally to assist in enhancing maritime safety.

Information contained in List IV and List V is based on the data provided to the ITU by Administrations of its Member States. Therefore, in order to ensure that the most up to date and accurate data is published in these publications, administrations should immediately notify any changes to operational information and station particulars to the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR), as provided for in provision of No. **20.16** of the Radio Regulations:

***20.16 § 12 1) Administrations shall take all appropriate measures to notify the Radiocommunication Bureau immediately of any changes in the operational information contained in Lists IV and V, in view of the importance of this information, particularly with regard to safety. In the case of the data published in List V, which is also made available online through MARS, administrations shall communicate those changes at least once a month. In the case of other publications, administrations shall communicate the changes in the information contained in them as soon as possible. (WRC-07)***

On the issue of the carriage of these publications on board ships, the requirements are stipulated in Appendix 16 of the Radio Regulations. Furthermore, telecommunication Administrations, who are normally responsible for the licensing of ship radio stations, have an obligation to ensure that stations under their jurisdiction comply with the stipulations of the Radio Regulations.

In the same spirit, these telecommunication Administrations have the reciprocal responsibility to inspect radio stations of foreign vessels visiting or calling into their ports. In this, they should ensure likewise that the provisions of the Radio Regulations are respected.

## Background

The provisions related to maritime publications have a very long history. As early as 1906, the Service regulations, annexed to the International Radiotelegraphic Convention (Berlin, 1906), instructed the International Radiotelegraphic Bureau, to establish the List of radiotelegraphy stations (including coast stations and ship stations) and specified the particulars of the coast and ship stations that are to be notified to the International Bureau. Since then, various updates were carried out, including those in 1927, 1932, 1947, 1959, 1979 and 1995.

In 1997, the **WRC-97** adopted Resolution 340, dealing with the need for additional search and rescue information in databases. In response to this Resolution, the Bureau consulted with administrations at various occasions and, as a consequence, incorporated the additional information in its database and the relevant publication (List V). Due to the very large volume of data and the increasing number of entries in the database, further consultations lead to a reduced paper publication (containing now only ship stations subject to SOLAS but excluding pleasure crafts) whereas the CD-ROM (Part B of List V) and the online access system via the Web (MARS) provide information on the full range of entries in the database.

In 2003, the **WRC-03** took into consideration the publication practices, bearing in mind the requirements set forth in the international treaties (Radio Regulations, SOLAS Convention), and decided, *inter alia*, to replace the term “Service documents” in Article 20 of the Radio Regulations by the more general term “**Service publications**” so as to create possibilities for ongoing adaptation of these publications to the changing requirements of the membership.

In 2007, one of the agenda items dealt with during WRC-07 was the future status of the maritime related Service Publications (Article 20) as well as their carriage requirements (Appendix 16).

After considering the inputs received, WRC-07 decided to make changes to the ITU Service Publications (Article 20):

- Modification of the title of this Article from “Service Publications” to “Service Publications and online information systems”, taking into account the existing online information system, i.e.: “Maritime mobile Access & Retrieval System” (MARS) and the possible introduction of future online information systems.
- Consolidation of certain publications, resulting in the amendment of the relevant provisions:
  - 20.7 – List IV – List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations.
  - 20.8 – List V – List of Ship Stations and Maritime Mobile Service Identity Assignments.
- Addition of new provisions, Nos. **20.16A** and **20.16B**, in order to assure the quality and accurateness of the data published in the consolidated publications (i.e.: Lists IV and V), by emphasizing the obligation of administrations to notify information with regularity.

Another consequence of the consolidation of the ITU Service Publications was the question of their mandatory carriage requirements. It was the general view that information carried in these publications assisted in enhancing maritime safety and after due consideration amended Appendix 16 as follows:

- It was decided that for all ship stations the carriage of some of these publications for certain classes of radio stations on board maritime mobile stations (i.e. Ship Stations for which a Global Maritime Distress and Safety System installation is required by international agreement) are deemed mandatory, so as to ensure their ready availability for reference in cases of operational needs and distress.

Furthermore, administrations were of the opinion that not only did these publications have to be consolidated; but their content format and periodicity had to be reviewed. Therefore, WRC-07 adopted Resolution 355 in order to provide the Administrations and the Bureau the necessary guidance to carry out this task. This Resolution:

- Invited ITU-R to conduct studies in order to review the form, periodicity and most importantly the contents of the ITU Service Publications, resulting in a new set of publications carrying information that will enhance the safety of life at sea and to complete these studies by 31 December 2010;
- Instructed the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau to publish the maritime service publications in the current format in the transition period until 31 December 2010 and after that date in the new format in the six official languages of the Union.

During the course of 2009, ITU-R completed its studies and the details concerning the new Lists are given below.

### **ITU Service Publications (maritime)**

#### **List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations (List IV)**

This publication facilitates proper communications between ship stations and coast station and serves as a reference to ship stations as it provides particulars of coast stations. It also provides Administrations and members of the maritime community with the necessary information on the coast stations participating in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) stations, including information on Search and Rescue Coordination Centers.

This List is prepared and issued, every two years, by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in accordance with provision No. 20.7 of the Radio Regulations (RR).

Appendix 16 to the Radio Regulations prescribes which stations on board ships shall be provided with this List.

This List is composed of a booklet (paper) containing the Preface and Reference tables and a CD-ROM (in pdf format) containing the complete data of coast and special service stations. This List contains information (i.e. call sign, MMSI, geographical coordinates, GMDSS sea areas of coverage, transmitting and receiving frequencies, etc.) of coast stations that:

- provide watch-keeping using digital selective calling techniques and public correspondence service;
- transmit medical advice, navigational and meteorological warnings and urgent information (MSI) by means of narrow-band direct-printing techniques, meteorological bulletins, notices to navigators, radio time signals and AIS.

It also contains information of port stations, pilot stations, coast earth stations, VTS stations, contact information of rescue coordination centers, SAR agencies, Navarea coordinators and information on AIS Aids to Navigation (AtoN).

It should be noted that as no supplements will be printed between two editions, a file containing a compilation of changes notified to this List will be made available for information, free of charge, through the ITU MARS webpage - <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/mars/en>

### **List of Ship Stations and Maritime Mobile Service Identity Assignments (List V)**

This List contains information that serves as an aid to rescue co-ordination centres in their search and rescue activities, thus enhancing the safety of life at sea. The MMSI provided in this list is deemed crucial in the identification of ships in distress particularly with the operation of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).

This List is prepared and issued, once a year, by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in accordance with provision No. **20.8** of the Radio Regulations (RR).

As stipulated in Appendix **16** to the Radio Regulations, this List shall be provided to all ship stations for which a Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) installation is required by international agreement.

This List is published in CD-ROM format and contains the Preface and reference tables in a booklet form.

The CD-ROM contains, in pdf format, information concerning ship stations, coast stations and Search and Rescue (SAR) aircraft for which an MMSI has been notified to the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR) as well as other ship stations, predetermined groups of ship stations, Accounting Authority Identification Codes (AAICs) and contact information of notifying administrations.

The CD-ROM also contains a database, along with an interface similar to the ITU MARS system (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/mars/en>), which enables users to search for and display particulars and details of ship stations, accounting authorities and countries responsible for the notifications.

This new List will be issued annually and no supplements will be printed. Amendments notified to this List will be available free of charge on the ITU MARS webpage - <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/mars/en>.

### **Manual for Use by the Maritime mobile and Maritime Mobile-Satellite Services**

This is a reference publication that provides the maritime community with a compilation of treaty, regulatory, technical, operational and other ITU texts relevant to the maritime mobile and maritime mobile-satellite services. It has been designed to be of use to operators in the maritime mobile and maritime mobile-satellite services.

This Manual is prepared and issued by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in accordance with provision No. **20.14** of the Radio Regulations (RR).

The Maritime Mobile and Maritime Mobile-Satellite Services reflect the regulatory provisions and the latest decisions concerning those services by ITU conferences (including relevant decisions pertaining to the introduction of new systems and techniques).

Appendix **16** to the Radio Regulations prescribes which stations on board ships shall be provided with this Manual.

Volume 1 of the Manual complements Volume 2 of the Manual by providing descriptive text of the organisation and operation of the GMDSS and other maritime operational procedures.

Volume 2 contains all pertinent extracts from the ITU Constitution and Convention, Radio Regulations, Telegraph and Telephone Regulations and associated ITU-T and ITU-R Recommendations, on the maritime mobile and maritime mobile satellite service.

## Notification of data

***The Radiocommunication Bureau accepts only notifications that have been submitted by the responsible administration of an ITU Member State.***

The following links contain the various notification forms and general information for the submission of data, for stations under your jurisdiction

- **List of Coast Stations and Special Service Stations (List IV)**  
<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/Notificationforms.aspx>
- **List of Ship Stations and Maritime Mobile Service Identity Assignments (List V)**  
<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/ShipStationsSubmissionofdata.aspx>
- **Search and rescue (SAR) aircraft**  
[http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/SARaircraft\\_submissionofdata.aspx](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/SARaircraft_submissionofdata.aspx)
- **AIS AIDS TO NAVIGATION (AtoN)**  
[http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/AtoNs\\_submissionofdata.aspx](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/mars/Pages/AtoNs_submissionofdata.aspx)
- **Accounting Authority Identification Codes (AAICs)**

The registering Administration should notify through an official email to the Radiocommunication Bureau:

- the name(s) and address(es) of the accounting authority(ies) with their respective identification codes.
- the cancellation of the registration of an AAIC.

An Administration that accepts an accounting authority outside its own country for maritime mobile stations under its flag, is responsible for notifying the ITU of this fact and of the Accounting Authority Identification Code (AAIC) allocated to that accounting authority.

## **All notifications, sent via post, email or fax, should be addressed to**

The attention of “The Director of Radiocommunication Bureau-ITU”

Postal address: Place des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Direct telefax: +41 22 730 5785

Direct e-mail: [brmail@itu.int](mailto:brmail@itu.int)

## **How to order the Service Publications (maritime)**

These publications can be ordered on-line via the ITU publications website:

<http://www.itu.int/publ/R-SP-LM/e>

## **Conclusion**

It is necessary that the different key players, be it administrations, other experts and organizations involved in the maritime domain as well as the Radiocommunication Bureau, combine their efforts to produce service publications that provide useful, accurate and the most up to date information to the maritime community.

Administrations are also reminded of their obligation to notify the Radiocommunication Bureau immediately, as stipulated in provision No. **20.16** of the Radio Regulations:

**20.16 § 12 1)** *Administrations shall take all appropriate measures to notify the Radiocommunication Bureau immediately of any changes in the operational information contained in Lists IV and V, in view of the importance of this information, particularly with regard to safety. In the case of the data published in List V, which is also made available online through MARS, administrations shall communicate those changes at least once a month. In the case of other publications, administrations shall communicate the changes in the information contained in them as soon as possible. (WRC-07)*

As in the past, the Radiocommunication Bureau shall continue to provide the necessary infrastructure and services to update the maritime databases with the information submitted by administrations, and to publish this information on time, while at the same time providing electronic access to the same via the MARS system.

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