

MIN 373 (M+F)

Radio: Operational Guidance on the Use Of VHF Radio and Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) at Sea; Guidance on NAV SN.CIRC.227 corrigenda.

Notice to all Owners, Masters, Surveyors, Officers and Pilots of Merchant Ships, Owners and Skippers of Fishing Vessels and Owners of Yachts and Pleasure Craft.

*This notice should be read with MSN 1795M & MGN 324(M&F)
This MIN expires 31 December 2010*

Summary

This Notice provides information on amendments to IMO SN/Circ.227 (GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A SHIPBORNE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS)). Essentially these change the hazard or pollutant categories A, B, C and D to corresponding hazard or pollutant categories X, Y, Z and OS, using the same AIS transmission digits 1, 2, 3 and 4

1. Background

- 1.1 Consequent to the entry into force of Marine Environment Protection Committee resolution MEPC.118(52) which changed the labeling of the categories of Noxious liquid substances, a corresponding change needed to be made to SOLAS ChapterV/19 and related documentation, including IMO document SN.Circ 227. This has been effected through a revised IMO document SN/Circ.227.
- 1.2 This purpose of this notice is to ensure that all concerned are aware that existing equipment will continue to display the old categorization but new equipment will progressively move to display the newer hazard categories. Users and Surveyors of AIS equipment are to note this when using older equipment. Full details are given in Annex A
- 1.3 Manufacturers of AIS equipment should make the necessary changes to ensure that new equipment will display the new categories as displayed in Annex B. Existing AIS-A systems that are type approved and comply with the current, relevant standard, IEC61993-2:2002, will not be required to undergo a software upgrade.
- 1.4 SOLAS V, Annex 17, Annex 2 (Type of ship table) will be updated. The change will affect MARPOL identifiers. The "Second digit" column, lines 2, 3, 4 & 5 will have the identifiers "A, B, C & D" replaced with "X, Y, Z & OS" respectively.
- 1.5 Training for both ship and shore installation operators should ensure that the new identifiers are recognized and that there will be a duality to these for some time.

More Information

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*An executive agency of the
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**CORRIGENDA TO SN/CIRC.227 ON
GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A SHIPBORNE
AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS)**

1 The Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation (NAV), at its fifty-fourth session (30 June to 4 July 2008), agreed on an amendment to annex 2 of the guidelines for the installation of a Shipborne Automatic Identification System (AIS).

2 The amendment contains the consequential change with regard to the entry into force of resolution MEPC.118(52), concerning the change in the categorization and listing of Noxious Liquid Substances and other substances. The Sub-Committee noted that the number of categories to be reported was the same, and therefore it was sufficient to revise the reference documentation SN/Circ.227, annex 2, to reflect the new classification letters corresponding to the same digits as currently in use by the AIS shipborne equipment. Practically this means that the reference hazard or pollutant categories A, B, C and D are changed to the hazard or pollutant categories X, Y, Z and OS, by using the same digits 1, 2, 3 and 4.

3 Users of AIS equipment are invited to note this equivalence when using the displays of existing AIS installations.

4 The Maritime Safety Committee, at its eighty-fifth session (26 November to 5 December 2008), concurred with the Sub-Committee's views, approved the corrigenda to the Guidelines for the installation of a shipborne Automatic Identification System (AIS), as set out at annex.

5 Member Governments are invited to bring the annexed amended annex 2 of the guidelines to the attention of all concerned.

ANNEX 2
TYPE OF SHIP TABLE

Identifiers to be used by ships to report their type			
Identifier No.	Special craft		
50	Pilot vessel		
51	Search and rescue vessels		
52	Tugs		
53	Port tenders		
54	Vessels with anti-pollution facilities or equipment		
55	Law enforcement vessels		
56	Spare – for assignments to local vessels		
57	Spare – for assignments to local vessels		
58	Medical transports (as defined in the 1949 Geneva Convention and Additional		
59	Ships according to Resolution No 18 (Mob-83)		
Other ships			
First digit (*)	Second digit (*)	First digit (*)	Second digit (*)
1 – reserved for future use	0 – All ships of this type	-	0 – Fishing
2 – WIG	1 – Carrying DG, HS, or MP IMO hazard or pollutant category X (**)	-	1 – Towing
3 – see right column	2 – Carrying DG, HS, or MP IMO hazard or pollutant category Y (**)	3 – Vessel	2 – Towing and length of the tow exceeds 200 m or breadth exceeds 25 m
4 – HSC	3 – Carrying DG, HS, or MP IMO hazard or pollutant category Z (**)	-	3 – Engaged in dredging or underwater operations
5 – see above	4 – Carrying DG, HS, or MP IMO hazard or pollutant category OS (**)	-	4 – Engaged in diving operations
	5 – reserved for future use	-	5 – Engaged in military operations
6 – Passenger ships	6 – reserved for future use	-	6 – Sailing
7 – Cargo ships	7 – reserved for future use	-	7 – Pleasure Craft
8 – Tanker(s)	8 – reserved for future use	-	8 – reserved for future use
9 – Other types of ship	9 – No additional information	-	9 – reserved for future use

DG: Dangerous Goods. HS: Harmful Substances. MP: Marine Pollutants.

(*) **NOTE** – The identifier should be constructed by selecting the appropriate first and second digits. (**) **NOTE** – The digits 1, 2, 3 and 4 reflecting categories X, Y, Z and OS formerly were categories A, B, C and D.