



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
**MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-112**

PanCanal Building  
Albrook, Panama City  
Republic of Panama  
Tel: (507) 501-5355  
jortega@segumar.com

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**To:**            **Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (RO's).**

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**Subject:**      **EPIRB PROGRAMMING AND REGISTRATION**

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**Reference:**    **SOLAS / CHAPTER IV – Reg. 15 – p. 9**

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**1 Purpose**

The purpose of this Circular is to remind Ship-owners/Operators, Company Security Officers, Legal Representatives of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Panamanian Merchant Marine Consulates and Recognized Organizations (RO's), that the Satellite Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (Satellite EPIRB'S) on board Panamanian vessels shall be programmed with the Maritime Mobile Service Identities (MMSI) number assigned to the vessel by the International Telecommunication Union through the flag Administration. If the vessel has not been assigned a MMSI number because it is not presently fitted with GMDSS, a request shall be made to the Administration.

After the programming of the EPIRB is completed and verified, a confirmation notice shall be sent to the main offices of the Administration including the following information:

1. Name of vessel
2. Call letters
3. IMO number
4. MMSI number programmed
5. Operator's complete name
6. Mailing address
7. Contact phone and fax numbers and/or email
8. Designated person in charge (In case of ISM certified vessels)
9. Copy of the valid radio license

**This information will be used in case of an emergency.**

After initial registration is carried out, it is the responsibility of the operator to inform the Administration of any changes to the contact information.

Request for MMSI numbers and notices of changes of programming / registration shall be sent to:

**DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MERCHANT MARINE  
TELECOMUNICATION SECTION**

**EMAIL: [radio@amp.gob.pa](mailto:radio@amp.gob.pa)**

**PHONE: (507) 501-5025**

<i>Prepared by: Translator</i>	<b><i>Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief</i></b>	<i>Aproved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>	
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Be advised that the MMSI number shall appear at the top of the Panamanian Valid Radio License. This number shall have nine digits, where the first three digits represent the country. MMSI numbers starting with zero (0) belong to Group Station, Coast Stations or Group Cost Stations Identities and are not to be assigned to a Ship Station Identity.

It is important that each operator checks that the correct MMSI number as listed in the Radio License has programmed in their equipment. If the MMSI number does not appear on your Radio License please contact the Administration.

**October, 2013** – *Changes all throughout the text*  
**December, 1999**

**Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:**  
**Directorate General of Merchant Marine**  
**Panama Maritime Authority**  
**Phone: (507) 501-5017 / 5025 / 5018**  
**Fax: (507) 501-5020**  
**Email: [mmendoza@amp.gob.pa](mailto:mmendoza@amp.gob.pa)**

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