



**PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY**  
**MERCHANT MARINE CIRCULAR MMC-287**

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

---

**To: Ship-owners/Operators of Panamanian Flagged Vessels, Class Societies, Recognized Organizations (RO's) and Management Companies.**

---

**Subject: Earlier Implementation of Amendment to SOLAS Reg. V/19.1.2 (BNWAS installation)**

---

**Reference:**

- a) **Resolution MSC. 350 (92) of 21 June 2013 - Amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended.**
  - b) **Merchant Marine Circular 229 - Bridge Navigation Watch Alarm System**
- 

**1 Purpose**

Inform the Ship-owners/operators of Panamanian flagged vessels regarding the earlier implementation of Amendment to SOLAS Reg. V/19.1 "application and requirements" related to the provision of BNWAS to ships constructed before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002.

**2 Application**

Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011 the carriage of Bridge Navigation Watch Alarm System (BNWAS) entered into force, in accordance with the Amendment to SOLAS Reg. V/19.2.2 through Resolution MSC. 282(86).

Considering that MSC 92 adopted the Resolution MSC.350 (92) on the amendments of SOLAS Reg. V/19 regarding the application of BNWAS to ships constructed before 1 July 2002 will enter into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015, and that until now the provisions of BNWAS has applied to all ships as per the original intent of BNWAS, this Administration will allow Panamanian flagged ships to extend the application of BNWAS to ships built before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2002 and for which BNWAS is no yet installed as per the amendment by the Res.MSC.350 (92) from now on.

**3 Amendment to SOLAS Reg. V/19**

- New subparagraph of SOLAS V/Reg.19.1.2.4  
"4 Ships constructed before 1 July 2002 shall be fitted with the system required in paragraph 2.2.3, as follows:

<i>Prepared by: Translator</i>	<i>Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief</i>	<i>Approved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>
<i>Control N°: F-RIN-04-01</i>	<i>Version: 03</i>	<i>Date: 06 July, 2011</i>
		Page 1 of 2

- .1 passenger ships irrespective of size, not later than the first survey\* after 1 January 2016;
- .2 cargo ships of 3,000 gross tonnage and upwards, not later than the first survey\* after 1 January 2016;
- .3 cargo ships of 500 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 3,000 gross tonnage, not later than the first survey\* after 1 January 2017; and
- .4 cargo ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 500 gross tonnage, not later than the first survey\* after 1 January 2018.

\* Refer to the Unified interpretation of the term first survey referred to in SOLAS regulations (MSC.1/Circ.1290).

The bridge navigational watch alarm system shall be in operation whenever the ship is underway at sea.

The provisions of paragraph 2.2.4 shall also apply to ships constructed before 1 July 2002.”

- New subparagraph of SOLAS V/Reg.19.1.3

“ 1.3 Administrations may exempt ships from the application of the requirement of paragraph 1.2.4 when such ships will be taken permanently out of service within two years after the implementation date specified in subparagraphs 1.2.4.1 to 1.2.4.4. (Added by Res.MSC.350 (92))”

**January, 2014**

**Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular or any request should be directed to:  
 Directorate General of Merchant Marine  
 Panama Maritime Authority  
 Phone: (507) 501-5033  
 Fax: (507) 501-5083**

<i>Prepared by: Translator</i>	<i>Revised by: Compliance and Enforcement Deputy Chief</i>	<i>Approved by: Compliance and Enforcement Chief</i>
<i>Control N°: F-RIN-04-01</i>	<i>Version: 03</i>	<i>Date: 06 July, 2011</i>
		Page 2 of 2