

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA

Ministry of Finance and Treasury

Office of the Directorate of Merchant Marine Circular No. 93

Consular and Maritime Affairs

To: Shipowners/Operators, Agents, Masters of Panamanian Flag Vessels,

Class Societies and other Authorized Organizations

Subject: SOLAS 1988 Amendments, Chapter III Regulations 6.2.1,

IMO Resolution 762(18)

1. Reference is made to the 1988 Amendments to the SOLAS Convention which will come into force for all ships on 1 February 1995, and to IMO Resolution 762(18) - Performance Standards for Survival Craft Two-way VHF Radiotelephone Apparatus.
2. VHF sets purchased prior to 1 February 1992 not in compliance with IMO Resolution 762(18) may still be used on board Panamanian flag vessels until 1 February 1999, provided that:
 - 1 They shall be capable of operation on the frequency 156.800 MHz (VHF channel 16) and on at least one additional channel.
 - 1 They should be capable of being operated by an unskilled person.
 - 1 They are to be kept in good condition.
 - 1 The source of energy shall be capable to operate the radio for 8 h at its highest rated output with a duty cycle of 1:9.
 - 1 Batteries are to be kept always in a fully charged condition.

December 1994

Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular should be directed to:
Directorate of Consular and Maritime Affairs, New York Representative Office,
Republic of Panama, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor
New York, New York 10036, U.S.A.