



PANAMA MARITIME AUTHORITY

Directorate General of Merchant Marine

Office of the Department Merchant Marine Circular No.109

Of Maritime Safety

To: Owners/Operators of Panamanian flag Vessels, Class Societies and Authorized Organizations

Subject: Application of GMDSS in accordance with International Tonnage Certificate ITC'69

Tonnage measurements determined under the 1969 Tonnage Convention can be sufficiently different from those determined under national tonnage regulations. This has created difficulties in connection with the application of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea in force, specially in connection with the application of the 1988 amendments to SOLAS relating to the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.

Having considered this, the Administration instructs all its vessels to be fitted with the Global Maritime Distress and Safety system taking into consideration the gross tonnage measured in accordance with the International Tonnage Convention 1969.

These new requirements will be enforced after 1 February 2002.

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