



Merchant Marine Notice MMN-19-005r1

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To: DEPUTY REGISTRARS, SHIP OWNERS/ISM OPERATORS/RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS/  
SHIPPING AGENTS/GENERAL SAFETY INSPECTORS

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Reference: WARNING to all Owners/Operators/Crew of Belize Flagged Vessels caught intentionally  
deactivating the Long-Range Identification and Tracking Equipment (LRIT) or the Automatic  
Identification System (AIS).

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Issuance Date: 13/11/2019

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## REFERENCE

- **SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 19-1** regarding Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT).
- **Merchant Shipping Notice 0036** regarding Implementation of the LRIT System for Belize Flagged Vessels.
- **SOLAS Chapter V Regulation 19.2.4** regarding Automatic Identification System (AIS).
- **Resolution MSC.263(84)** Revised Performance Standards and Functional Requirements for the Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships.
- **Resolution A.1106(29)** Revised Guidelines for the Onboard Operational Use of Shipborne Automatic Identification System (AIS).

## PURPOSE

The International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) for the purposes of this Merchant Marine Notice reminds all interested parties that:

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1. All passenger ships, including high-speed passenger crafts, cargo ships, including high-speed craft of 300 gross tonnage and upward and mobile offshore drilling units shall be fitted with a Long-range identification and tracking of ships (LRIT).
2. All ships of 300 gross tonnage and upwards engaged on international voyages and cargo ships of 500 gross tonnage and upwards not engaged on international voyages and passenger ships irrespective of size shall be fitted with an automatic identification system (AIS).

## CONTENT

Any Belize Flagged Vessel that intentionally deactivate the Long-range Identification and Tracking equipment (LRIT) and/or the Automatic Identification System (AIS) will be subject to disciplinary actions in accordance with regulations 7 (Fines) and 8 (Cancellation of Registration or Documents) of the Statutory Instrument 156 of 1999 – Disciplinary Regulations.

## SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The LRIT and AIS can only be switched off or deactivated under the following special circumstances:

1. When a ship is undergoing repairs, modifications or conversions in dry-dock or in port or is laid up for a long period, the master or the Administration may reduce the frequency of the transmission LRIT information to one transmission every 24-hour period, or may temporarily stop the transmission of such information. Regulation 4.4.1 of IMO Resolution MSC.263(84) Revised Performance Standards and Functional Requirements for the Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT).
2. When the master believes that the continual operation of AIS might compromise the safety or security of his/her ship or where security incidents are imminent. Regulation 22 of IMO Resolution A.1106(29) “Revised Guidelines for the Onboard Operational Use of Shipborne Automatic Identification Systems (AIS).

Prior the switching off or deactivation of the LRIT and AIS, a written notification must be submitted by owner/operator to IMMARBE Technical Department ([technicalofficer@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer@immarbe.com), [technicalofficer2@immarbe.com](mailto:technicalofficer2@immarbe.com) and [techsupport@immarbe.com](mailto:techsupport@immarbe.com)) explaining the reasons and period of this action. A proper

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written authorization will be granted by the Technical Department.

Actions of this nature should always be recorded in the ship's logbook together with the reason for doing so.

### **ACTIONS REQUESTED**

This Administration would like to encourage all Shipowners, Operators, Deputy Registrar and Recognized Organizations to take note of the contents of this Notice and to ensure its provisions are enforced on board vessels registered at IMMARBE.

Look forward for your cooperation and assistance.

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The Notice was issued in Belize city, Belize 05/06/2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eduardo Simon".

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Eng. Eduardo Simon  
Technical Manager  
IMMARBE



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Annette Gare".

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Annette Gare (Mrs.)  
Senior Deputy Registrar  
IMMARBE