



Marine Notice Nr. 02/ 2024,18/04/2024

Subject: "LRIT Equipment Type Approval Policy Statement"

Ref. : (a) SOLAS regulations /19-1.6 and V/19-1.7.
(b) IMO MSC Circular SC.1/Circ.1307/Rev.1. and MSC Circular MSC.1/Circ.1307.
(c) G-B I.S.R. MAR CIR "Compliance with Long-Range Identification and Tracking of Ships (LRIT) for Vessels Registered with the G-B I.S.R", Marine Circular Nr. 09/2022 – 17/10/2022.

To: Ship owners, managers, Masters of G-B I.S.R. vessels, Approved Nautical Inspectors, MoUs, Flag State Surveyors, and Recognized Organizations.

Summary: This Marine Notice outlines the LRIT Equipment Type Approval Policy of G-B International Ships Registry. As the responsible authority for overseeing the Long-Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) system, G-B I.S.R. establishes this policy to ensure compliance with the relevant provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS). The policy highlights that compliance with LRIT regulations must be shown by a valid CTR, and is not specific to any manufacturer, make, or model of equipment, while also outlining additional supportive criteria.

1. Background

1.1. The Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 106th session in November 2022, approved the circular SC.1/Circ.1307/Rev.1 to provide amendments to the Guidance on the survey and certification of compliance of ships with the requirement to transmit LRIT information. The Guidance outlines several alternative options for documenting compliance of the shipborne equipment with the requirements of SOLAS regulations /19-1.6 and V/19-1.7 and the related provisions of the revised Performance Standards and functional requirements for the long-range identification and tracking of ships and sets out the approach to be taken when surveying and certifying the compliance of ships which are required to transmit LRIT information with the aforesaid obligation.

1.2. In particular SOLAS regulation V/19-1.6 specifies that the shipboard equipment to be used to transmit LRIT information (shipborne equipment) shall be of a type approved by the Administration.

2. Policy Statement

2.1. G-B I.S.R. is committed to ensuring compliance with the Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT) regulations outlined in Regulation V/19-1 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS). This document presents the G-B I.S.R. LRIT Type Approval Policy for implementation on vessels registered under our flag. G-B I.S.R. does not conduct LRIT equipment-type approvals. Instead, compliance with LRIT regulations is assessed mainly by a valid Conformance Test Report (CTR), and is not specific to any manufacturer, make, or model of equipment. In addition to particular relevance and ancillary utility are the following criteria:

a. Manufacturer Acceptance: The LRIT terminal is explicitly accepted by the manufacturer for use as an LRIT device.



b. IMO Applicable Standards: The LRIT device adheres to the minimum standards set forth by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for LRIT, ensuring its functionality and reliability.

c. Pole Star Support: The LRIT device is demonstrably supported by Pole Star, the G-B ISR recognized LRIT Data Centre provider, ensuring seamless integration with the LRIT system. Pole Star provides within the context of its testing procedures, the list of equipment formally stated as being of a type approved for the provisions of LRIT

3. Shipborne LRIT Equipment & Requirement for Conformance Testing

3.1. Companies may utilize any equipment to transmit LRIT information, provided that the equipment:

a. demonstrates compliance with the requirements of Regulations 19-1.6 and 19-1.7 of SOLAS Chapter V, and the revised performance standards as referenced in IMO MSC Circular MSC.1/Circ.1307 Guidance on the survey and certification of compliance of ships with the requirement to transmit LRIT information.

b. has undergone a satisfactory conformance test. A conformance test is required for all shipborne LRIT equipment to ensure that the equipment, as fitted on board, complies with the provisions of Regulation 19-1.6 of SOLAS Chapter V and the current LRIT performance standards. The conformance test shall be conducted taking into consideration the provisions of Regulation 19-1.4.1 of SOLAS Chapter V.

c. Where the LRIT equipment is being used for another function, e.g., ship security alert system (SSAS) or GMDSS transmission, the equipment shall also comply with the relevant performance standards relating to that function.

4. Use of LRIT Equipment

4.1. Vessels registered under G-B I.S.R. are required to install LRIT equipment that meets the criteria outlined above to ensure compliance with SOLAS Regulation V/19-1.

5. List of Approved Equipment

5.1. G-B I.S.R. does not maintain a formal list of approved LRIT equipment. However, LRIT terminals meeting the above criteria are deemed acceptable for use on our flagged vessels.

6. Compliance and Enforcement

6.1. G-B I.S.R. may conduct audits and inspections to verify compliance with LRIT regulations. Vessel operators are responsible for ensuring that their LRIT equipment remains operational and compliant with regulatory requirements at all times.

7. Conclusion:

7.1. G-B I.S.R. remains committed to upholding the highest standards of maritime safety and security. By adhering to LRIT regulations and utilizing LRIT equipment meeting the specified criteria, we contribute to global efforts to enhance the safety and security of maritime transportation.

8. Effective Date

8.1. The current Maritime Circular has immediate effect as per the day of issuance



9. Inquiries

9.1. For inquiries or further information regarding LRIT compliance, please contact G.B. I.S.R. – Technical Department (E-mail: tech@gbi-lb.org, Tel. : +30 210 4537950, +30 210 4537914).

For the Guinea-Bissau International Ships Registry

Authorized Signatory:

Office of the General Ships Registrar

