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INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974

Equivalent arrangements accepted under regulation I/5

Nautical charts and publications

Communication by the Government of Malta

The Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization has the honour to transmit herewith the text of a communication by the Government of Malta on equivalent arrangements accepted under regulation I/5 of the above Convention.

The Secretary-General would be grateful if steps could be taken to bring this information to the attention of the appropriate authorities.

ANNEX

IR-RAPPRESENTANT PERMANENTI TA' MALTA
ORGANIZZAZJONI INTERNAZZJONALI MARITTIMA



THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MALTA
INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION

14 February 2006

Mr E Mitropoulos
Secretary General
International Maritime Organisation
4 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7SR

Sir

Please refer to regulation V/27 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, dealing with nautical charts and nautical publications.

In terms of the provisions of regulation I/5 of the said convention, the Government of Malta hereby submits the enclosed statement concerning the acceptance of equivalent arrangements.

I should be grateful if the statement is circulated to all Contracting Governments.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LC Vassallo'.

LC Vassallo
Permanent Representative



INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1974

Equivalent arrangement accepted under Regulation I/5

NAUTICAL PUBLICATIONS

Statement by the Government of Malta

Regulation 27 of Chapter V of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended, requires all ships to carry adequate and up-to-date charts, sailing directions, list of lights, notices to mariners, tide tables and all other nautical publications necessary for the intended voyage.

The Government of Malta gives notification of the acceptance of the following equivalent arrangement under the provisions of Regulation 5(a) of Chapter I of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974, as amended.

Ships fitted with an Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS), type approved in accordance with relevant international standards, including IMO Resolution A.817(19), as amended, and with adequate back-up arrangements, are accepted as meeting the chart carriage requirements of SOLAS 74 Chapter V, regulation 27 when navigating within waters covered by Electronic Navigational Charts (ENC) officially issued by an authorized Hydrographic Office.

The following arrangements are accepted as fulfilling the back-up requirement:

1. an appropriate folio of up-to-date nautical charts; or
2. a second type-approved ECDIS; or
3. a type-approved electronic back-up arrangement for ECDIS mode of operation (using ENC).

Both the primary and secondary (alternative 2.) ECDIS shall be fully independent and both supplied from the ship's main and emergency source of power. In addition, a reserve power source (UPS mode) with a capacity of at least 30 minutes is to be provided if change-over of the source of power entails restarting of ECDIS.

For alternatives 2. and 3. above, an appropriate folio of up-to-date paper charts is to be available to enable the ship to safely reach a port within or adjacent to its trading areas when coverage by ENC is not available.

When paper nautical charts serve as the only back-up arrangement (alternative 1.), the charts shall include the planned route and, when navigating within restricted waters, the ship's position is to be regularly updated to ensure a safe take-over of ECDIS functions should the need arise.