



**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS  
DEPARTMENT OF MERCHANT SHIPPING  
LEMESOS**

Circular No: 34/2005

TEN 1/5  
TEN 32/5/1/42/1

17 November 2005

To all Owners, Managers  
and Representatives of  
ships registered in Cyprus

**Subject: Special Measures to Enhance Maritime Security  
Change of the contact point dedicated to receive ship-to-shore security alerts  
initiated by a Ship Security Alert System (SSAS)**

As per Regulation XI/6.2.1. of SOLAS 74, as amended, the above contact point has been designated in our previous Circular 36/2004. Now, in order to facilitate the whole procedure of transmission of a ship-to-shore security alert, we have established the following e-mail address:

**[SSAS@dms.mcw.gov.cy](mailto:SSAS@dms.mcw.gov.cy)**

The Ship Security Alert System, when activated, must transmit a ship to shore security alert to the shipmanagement company as well as to the Department of Merchant Shipping, to the above e-mail address.

In view of the above, the SSAS of all existing and new Cyprus flag ships must be programmed with the correct contact point not later than 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

RSOs shall verify this at the next intermediate survey of the ISSC or at the next annual survey of CSRC, PSSC. The previous contact point and the new one will continue to operate in parallel until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2007, when only the above e-mail will remain in operation.

Upon receiving a "real" ship Security Alert from a ship (not a test or an accidentally initiated alert), the Company Security Officer or his alternate CSO must notify the Officer on Duty in the Department of Merchant Shipping by telephone immediately, using the telephone number + 357 99 377 988, which is available at all times, who will take appropriate action,

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the above phone number is designated as per Regulation XI/13.3 of SOLAS 74, as amended and it should be used exclusively for **maritime security** purposes.

Ship Security Alerts may be transmitted to the Department of Merchant Shipping for test purposes only, during the commissioning phase of the SSAS on board the ship and the test report must include clear indications that it is a test. If the above arrangement is not possible, then a pre notification must be sent to the Department. We expect that all necessary precautions will be taken to avoid accidental activation of SSAS.

We take this opportunity to advise you to instruct the Masters of Cyprus ships to take appropriate security measures when sailing off Somalia coast, including the reduction of radio transmitting activities as much as possible as piracy attacks with the use of heavy guns have been reported beyond 100 nautical miles off Somalia coast.

You are urged to proceed expeditiously to ensure full compliance with these requirements in time.

Serghios S. Serghiou  
Director  
Department of Merchant Shipping

CC Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad  
Diplomatic and Consular Missions of the Republic  
Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic  
Cyprus Bar Association  
Cyprus Shipping Council  
Cyprus Union of Shipowners  
Recognized Security Organizations