

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR  
NO. 02-2-82**

**SUBJECT: Implementation of SOLAS 1974**

**I. Reference:**

- A - International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) 1974.
- B - Instrument of Accession for SOLAS 1974, dated 16 October 1981, Annex A.
- C - Act 3846, as amended.

**II. Purpose :**

To prescribe the necessary guidelines and procedures for the effective implementation of the provisions of the SOLAS Convention 1974, concerning telecommunication matters.

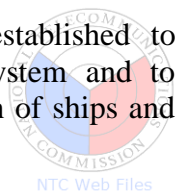
**III. Scope:**

- A - Issuance of Ship Safety Radio Certificate (SRC).
- B - Requirements for issuance of SRC.
- C - Required additional equipment for vessels.

**IV. Definitions:**

The following definition of terms shall apply in this Circular.

1. Cargo Ship Safety Radiotelegraph Certificate – A safety radio certificate issued after inspection to a cargo vessel, fitted with a radiotelephone installation, which complies with the requirements of the SOLAS Convention.
2. Cargo Ship Safety Radiotelephone Certificate – A safety radio certificate issued after inspection to a cargo vessel, fitted with a radiotelephone installation, which complies with the requirements of the SOLAS Convention.
3. Classification Society – An international organization established to facilitate effective functioning of the marine issuance system and to safeguard life and property at sea by undertaking inspection of ships and offshore structures.



4. NTC or Commission – Refers to the National Telecommunications commission.

## **V. Issuance of Ship Safety Radio Certificate**

### **A General Procedures:**

1. The licensee of a ship station desiring to obtain a cargo ship Safety Radio Certificate for his vessel engaged in the international trade shall file the prescribed application with the main office of the NTC at Quezon City or with any of its field offices.
2. The NTC may issue to a cargo ship a Ship Safety Radiotelegraph Certificate or a Ship Safety Radiotelephony Certificate as applied for after inspection of the radio installation which complies with the requirements of the SOLAS Convention.
3. The inspection of the radio installation of a cargo vessel located in any Philippine port shall be performed by the duly authorized representative of the NTC.
4. The NTC however, may authorize a Classification Society recognized by it to perform the inspection of the ship station on board a Philippine registered vessel, particularly when the vessel is located in a foreign port, and issue to the vessel the certificate applied for in behalf of the Philippine Government.

### **B. Recognized Classification Societies**

1. The following organizations with offices in metro Manila area recognized by the NTC to perform the inspection of radio installations on board Philippine registered vessels:

A - American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) of the United States.

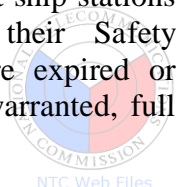
B - Lloyds Register of Shipping of the United Kingdom.

C - Nippon Kaiji Kyokai (NK) of Japan.

D - Bureau Veritas (BV) of France

2. Continuing Authority

A recognized Classification Society may be granted upon request a continuing authority by the NTC to inspect ship stations on board Philippine registered vessels when their Safety Radiotelegraphy or Radiotelephony Certificates are expired or about to expire in any foreign ports, and issue if warranted, full



term extension of the certificates in behalf of the Philippine Government, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The initial inspection of the ship station on board a newly acquired Philippine registered vessel shall be conducted by the Society provided that the ship owner obtained prior authorization therefor from the Commission.
- b. The periodical inspection of the ship station for extension of the safety certificate shall be performed by the concerned organization directly upon request of the ship owner.
- c. The society shall furnish the Commission a copy of the extended SRC for every ship station and a copy also of the technical report of the inspection conducted thereon, preferably on a prescribed NTC form, within thirty (30) days from the date of inspection of the station.
- d. The NTC however retains the right to terminate, if necessary the authority issued to a Classification Society provided that the said society shall be notified accordingly thirty days in advance.

C. Duration of Safety Radio Certificates.

1. The NTC or any duly authorized Classification Society shall issue a 12-month or full-term certificate to a cargo ship fitted with a radiotelegraph or radiotelephone installation, which complies with the requirements of the SOLAS convention.
2. A short-term certificate may be issued however to a vessel which was found not complying with the requirement. The agency concerned shall notify immediately the station licensee accordingly but shall not extend the certificate any further until the reported deficiency or discrepancy has been remedied properly.

**VI. Requirements for the issuance of the SRC.**

A. For the newly acquired vessel located in the Philippine port.

1. Properly accomplished application for the SRC.
2. Copies of the certificates of registry and ownership issued by the Philippine Coast Guard for the vessel.
3. Copy of the ship station license or application therefor.



- B. For a newly acquired vessel located in a foreign port.
1. Letter of request for authority to allow a Classification Society to inspect the radio installation and issue an SRC accordingly.
  2. Copy of the MARINA approval for acquisition of the vessel.
  3. Letter of request for temporary permit to operate the existing radio installation on board vessel and assignment of a Philippine call sign therefor.

**NOTE:** The shipowner shall subsequently comply with all the other NTC requirements for the licensing of the ship station within the effectivity period of the temporary permit.

- C. For extension of the SRC of a Philippine vessel in port.
1. Properly accomplished application for renewal of the SRC.
  2. Copy of the valid ship station license of application therefor.
- D. For extension of the SRC of a Philippine vessel in foreign port - Refer to the provisions of Section V-B.
- E. For extension of the SRC of a foreign registered vessel available in a Philippine port.
1. Letter of request from the office of the foreign embassy concerned.

## VII. Required Additional Equipment

Item	Regulation	Requirement
<b>A. Radiotelegraphy</b>		
1. Radiotelephone distress frequency watch receiver	Chap. IV, Reg. 7 (b) Chap. IV, Reg. 10 (a) (ii)	To be added to the main installation
2. Automatic device for generating the radio telephone alarm signal	Chap. IV, Reg. 10 (c) (IV) (1)	To be fitted if radio telephone transmitter is provided
3. VHF radiotelephone station	Chap. IV, Reg. 17	VHF equipment of the NTC approved type is to be added
<b>B. Radiotelephone</b>		
1. Radiotelephone distress frequency watch receiver	Chap. IV, Reg. 7 (a) Chap. IV, Reg. 16 (a)	To be added to the main installation
2. VHF radiotelephone station	Chap. IV, Reg. 17	VHF equipment of the NTC approved type is to be fitted



C. Shipboard Navigational Equipment

- |                                |                      |  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1. Radar                       | Chap. V, Reg. 12 (a) | Radar of approved type is to be fitted to a ship of 1600 GT and upwards. |
| 2. Radio Equipment for homing. | Chap. V, Reg. 12 (f) | To be fitted to all new ships of 1600 GT and upwards.                    |
| 3. Gyro-compass                | Chap. V, Reg. 12 (o) | For ships of 1600 GT and upwards.  |
| 4. Echo Sounding Device        | Chap. V, Reg. 12 (d) | For all new ships of 500 GT and upwards.                                 |

VIII. **Additional Provisions**

Pursuant to Section 10, Act 3846, as amended, all relevant provisions of the SOLAS Convention 1974 affecting marine telecommunications, are hereby made a part of this Circular subject to strict compliance by all concerned.

IX. **Grace Period**

All shipowners shall be granted a grace period of not later than December 31, 1982 to acquire and install the additional radio equipment required under SOLAS 1974 for their respective vessels engaged in the international trade.

X. **Required Fee**

Payment for issuance of the SRC ----- P 250.00

XI. **Penalties**

Willful violation of any operative provisions of this Circular shall be subject to the penal provisions of Act 3846, as amended.

XII. **Effectivity**

This Circular shall take effect immediately upon approval.

APPROVED:

(SGD.) CEFERINO S. CARREON  
Acting Commissioner

