



**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**  
**NO. 03-06-2016**

**SUBJECT: Amendment to Memorandum Circular No. 4-09-88, "PRESCRIBED EQUIPMENT FOR SHIP STATIONS OF VARIOUS VESSELS PLYING DOMESTIC ROUTES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS" and PRESCRIBING THE REQUIRED RADIO OPERATORS THEREOF**

Pursuant to Act 3396, as amended, Executive Order No. 546 issued on July 23, 1979, relevant ITU Radio Regulations, 1974 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), as amended and Republic Act No. 10635 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, and to ensure that certain vessels as categorized herein are provided with the necessary radio apparatus and the required radio operator that will enhance safety of life and property at sea, the Commission deemed it necessary to amend NTC MC# 4-09-88, to read as follows:

1. All ships/vessels registered with the Philippine Government plying domestic routes shall not attempt or leave any Philippine port without the prescribed radio installation on board and the required radio operator, as follows:

Classes and Categories of Ships	Required Radio Equipment	Required Radio Operator	Remarks
<b>A. Passenger Ships</b>			
1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes	VHF radio installation	Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)	1. The radio operator qualification requirement for these stations shall remain in force within five (5) years from effectivity of this Circular and shall terminate if and when the onboard radio equipment are upgraded to GMDSS.
2. Engaged on a coastwise voyage	VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20-100 Watts Power Output ) GPS (150 GT and above) AIS (300 GT and above)	Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)	
<b>B. Cargo Ships</b>			
1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes	VHF radio installation	Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)	
2. Engaged on a coastwise voyage	VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20-100 Watts Power Output) GPS (150 GT and above) AIS (500 GT and above)	Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)	

<p>C. Tankers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes</li> <li>2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage</li> </ol>	<p>VHF radio installation</p> <p>VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20 -100 Watts Power Output) GPS regardless of size</p>	<p>Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)</p> <p>Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)</p>	<p>2. For vessels equipped with GMDSS, the radio operator requirement is at least two (2) deck officers (excluding the master) who are holders of General Operator Certificate (GOC) or one (1) exclusive radio operator who is a holder of both GOC and Radio Electronic Certificate (REC).</p>
<p>D. Tug and Dredgers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes</li> <li>2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage</li> </ol>	<p>VHF radio installation</p> <p>VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20-100 Watts Power Output) GPS</p>	<p>Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)</p> <p>Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)</p>	
<p>E. Fishing Vessels</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes</li> <li>2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage</li> </ol>	<p>VHF radio installation</p> <p>VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20 -100 Watts Power Output) GPS (75 GT and above)</p>	<p>Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)</p> <p>Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)</p>	
<p>F. Yachts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes</li> <li>2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage</li> </ol>	<p>VHF radio installation</p> <p>VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20 -100 Watts Power Output) GPS (150 GT and above)</p>	<p>Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)</p> <p>Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)</p>	



G. Highspeed Crafts		
1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes	VHF radio installation	Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)
2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage	VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20 -100 Watts Power Output) GPS regardless of size	Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)
H. Special Purpose Ships		
1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes	VHF radio installation	Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)
2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage	VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20-100 Watts Power Output) GPS	Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)
I. Miscellaneous Ships		
1. Bay, River, Harbor and Lakes	VHF radio installation	Holder of at least Third Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (3PHN) or Special Radio Operator Permit (SROP)
2. Engaged on a Coastwise voyage	VHF, MF/HF SSB radio installation (20 -100 Watts Power Output) GPS	Holder of at least Second Class Radiotelephone Operator Certificate (2PHN)

2. It shall be the duty of the duly licensed radio operator as provided under Chapter IV, Regulation 16 of the SOLAS Convention, as amended, to operate properly the ship radio stations and to make certain that each authorized radio equipment in the station is in good working condition and capable of transmitting and receiving messages in the following distress channels.

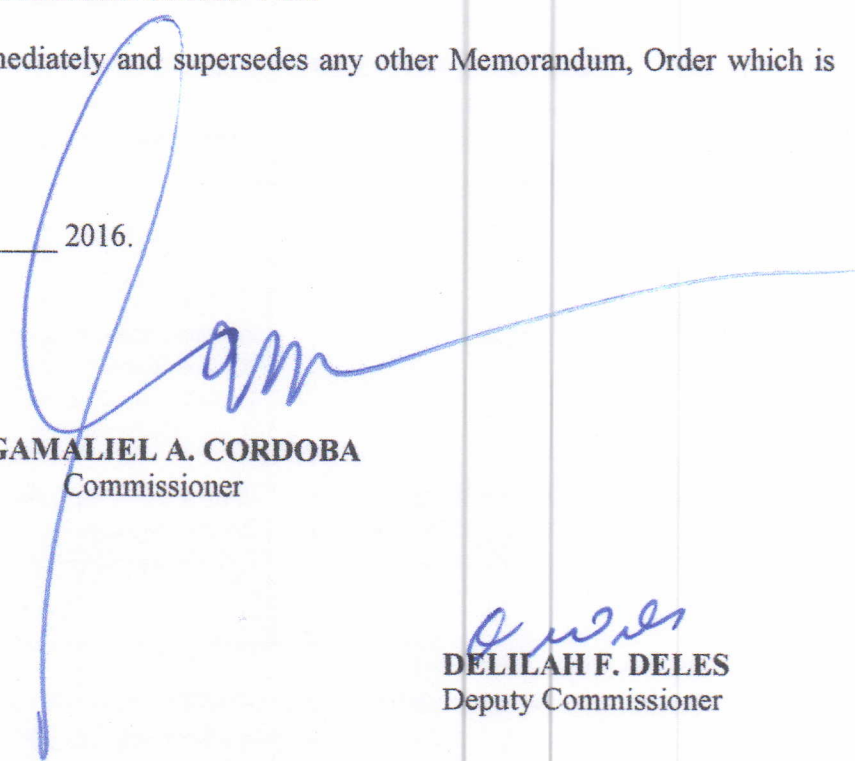
2182 KHz	-	HF/SSB International Distress Channel
4125 KHz	-	Alternate HF/SSB International Distress Channel
6215 KHz	-	Alternate HF/SSB International. Distress Channel
156.3 MHz (Channel 6)	-	Intership and Safety
156.6 MHz (Channel 12)	-	PCG/ Harbormaster
156.8 MHz (Channel 16)	-	VHF International Distress, Safety and Calling

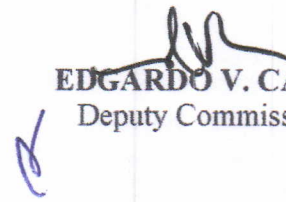
GMDSS Frequencies:

2187.5 KHz	-	MF International Distress/Urgency/Safety Channel for Digital Selective Calling (DSC)
4207.5/6312.0/8414.5/ 12577.0/16804.5 KHz	-	HF International Distress/Urgency/Safety Channel for DSC
156.525 MHz (Channel 70)	-	VHF International Distress/Urgency/Safety Channel for DSC
518 KHz	-	Maritime Safety Information (NAVTEX)
406/121.5 MHz	-	Emergency Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)
9 GHz	-	Search and Rescue Radar Transponder (SART)

3. To promote further the safety of navigation, all ship radio stations duly licensed by the Commission, are hereby required to maintain continuous radio watch, as provided under Chapter IV Regulation 12 of the SOLAS Convention, as amended, during the entire period of navigation.
4. Any violations and/or non-compliance of the provisions of this Circular shall be subject to applicable penalties/sanctions described in Memorandum Circular 4-89.
5. This Circular shall take effect immediately and supersedes any other Memorandum, Order which is inconsistent herewith.

Issued this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 2016.

  
**GAMALIEL A. CORDOBA**  
Commissioner

  
**EDGARDO V. CABARIOS**  
Deputy Commissioner

  
**DELILAH F. DELES**  
Deputy Commissioner