

GIBRALTAR MARITIME ADMINISTRATION
(Ministry of Maritime Affairs)



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Shipping Guidance Notice – 031
This Shipping Guidance Notice cancels and supersedes SGN No 23

To: Ship Owners, Operators, Masters, Officers and Classification Societies

Bridge Navigational Watch Alarm Systems (BNWAS)

1. Amendments to Chapter V of SOLAS have been adopted by the International Maritime Organization and entered into force internationally on 01 January 2011.
2. MSC Resolution MSC.282 (86) covers the phased-in carriage requirement for bridge navigational watch alarm system (BNWAS).
3. A bridge navigational watch alarm system (BNWAS) is required, as follows:
 - a. cargo ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards and passenger ships irrespective of size constructed on or after 1 July 2011;
 - b. passenger ships irrespective of size constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey* after 1 July 2012;
 - c. cargo ships of 3,000 gross tonnage and upwards constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey* after 1 July 2012;
 - d. cargo ships of 500 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 3,000 gross tonnage constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey* after 1 July 2013; and
 - e. cargo ships of 150 gross tonnage and upwards but less than 500 gross tonnage constructed before 1 July 2011, not later than the first survey* after 1 July 2014.
4. * First survey refers to the Unified interpretation of the term “first survey” referred to in SOLAS regulations (MSC.1/Circ.1290).
5. The bridge navigational watch alarm system shall be in operation whenever the ship is underway at sea.

6. A bridge navigational watch alarm system (BNWAS) installed prior to 1 July 2011 may subsequently be exempted from full compliance with the standards adopted by the organization, at the discretion of the Gibraltar Maritime Administration (GMA).
7. Gibraltar will accept national standards which are considered as an equivalent standard to Resolution MSC 128(75).

Alan Cubbin
Maritime Administrator

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