
To: relevant departments of CCS Headquarters, CCS surveyors, relevant ship owners, shipyards, product manufacturers and shipping management companies

Technical notice on Guidance for navigation and communication equipment intended for use on ships operating in polar waters

(MSC.1 Circ.1612) issued by IMO

1. Background

The Maritime Safety Committee of International Maritime Organization (IMO), at its 101st session in 14 June 2019, approved guidance for navigation and communication equipment intended for use on ships operating in polar waters by means of MSC.1/Circ.1612.

The aim of this guidance is to enhance the safety and efficiency of navigation and communication equipment intended for use on ships operating in polar waters by giving recommendations on general requirements and specific performance standards for navigation and communication equipment.

2. Main contents

This Guidance is applicable to navigation and communication equipment intended for use on ships operating in polar waters.

This Guidance consists of four parts:

(1) Module A considers the environmental conditions of polar water, mainly in three aspects: temperature, ice accretion and handling of equipment dependent on batteries;

(2) Module B is based on the environmental conditions in Module A to analyze the impact of all navigation and communication equipment intended for use on ships operating in polar waters.

(3) Module C is addressing the handling of incorrect data of impaired equipment.

(4) The appendix provides information on survival craft and rescue boat communications capabilities.

MSC.1/Circ.1612 is provided in the annex.

This technical notice is made public on CCS website (www.ccs.org.cn), and is to be distributed to relevant ship owners, shipyards, product manufacturers and shipping management companies by CCS branches within their responsible areas. Please contact Technology & Information Department of CCS (ti@ccs.org.cn) for any inquiry in the implementation.

Annex: MSC.1/Circ.1612 — Guidance for navigation and communication equipment intended for use on ships operating in polar waters