

MANAGEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL NAVTEX SERVICE

References:

- A. IMO Resolution A801(19) CRITERIA FOR USE WHEN PROVIDING A NAVTEX SERVICE
- B. IHO/IMO Special Publication No 53 Paragraph 6.2.1.16
- C. CL 31/2000 dated 12 July 2000
- D. IMO Navtex Manual (1994 and 2001 Editions) Paragraphs 7.1, 7.4 and 9.1.5.1

Dear Hydrographer,

The CPRNW at its 6th meeting in May 2003 reviewed arrangements for the promulgation of navigational warnings by Navtex. It noted that:

- Contrary to Reference A, many International Navtex Stations do not have defined Service Areas. These should have been established as part of the preliminary discussions between Member States wishing to establish International Navtex Services and the appropriate Navarea Coordinator prior to the formal application to establish the service as set out in References B and C.
- Reports from Merchant Ships indicated that some International Navtex stations, contrary to Reference D, were sending test messages and weather warnings with Navtex Characters B₃B₄ = 00 thereby triggering unnecessarily the Alarm Function in the Navtex Receivers.

Member States are requested to inform their relevant national authorities of the above shortcomings and request them to follow the guidance contained in the References. Where existing International Navtex Stations do not have designated Service Areas, Member States are asked to contact their relevant authorities and encourage them to take retrospective action in accordance with IMO Navtex Manual Chapter 10.

On behalf of the Directing Committee
Yours sincerely,

(original signed)

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
President