

## MSI Self Assessment NAVAREA X

Submitted by Australia (Australian Maritime Safety Authority)

### SUMMARY

Executive Summary: Annual report by NAVAREA X for period July 2013 to June 2014.

Action to be taken: Paragraph 12.

Related documents: Nil.

## 1. Background

1.1 NAVAREA X extends from the Antarctic coast at longitude 080° E thence,

30° 00 S 080° 00 E	30° 00 S 095° 00 E	12° 00 S 095° 00 E
12° 00 S 127° 00 E	10° 00 S 127° 00 E	10° 00 S 141° 00 E
00° 00 S 141° 00 E	00° 00 S 170° 00 E	29° 00 S 170° 00 E
45° 00 S 160° 00 E		

thence to the coast of the Antarctic continent at longitude 160° 00 E.

Outline maps of NAVAREA X are available from the Australian Annual Notices to Mariners and the UK Hydrographic Office publication ALRS Volume 5.

1.2 NAVAREA X broadcasts are undertaken through the service provider, Inmarsat, via Burum LES. Messages are transmitted to Burum LES using XOT (X.25 over TCP) and messages are received from Burum via TCP/IP. MSI messages are transmitted in a non-interactive manner to Burum LES for broadcast over SafetyNET via the IOR and POR satellites.

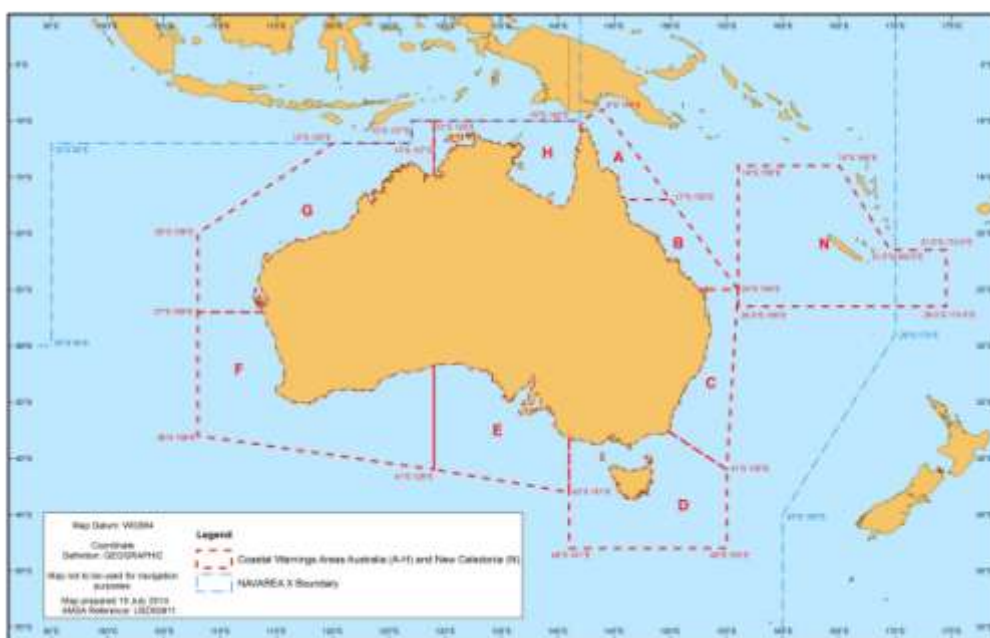
1.3 The Australian MSI provider has contractual arrangements with its SafetyNET provider requiring an availability of 99.5% per calendar month. The availability of the service for July 2013 to June 2014 is provided in Table 1 and averaged 99.97%.

Month	IOR/POR Availability
July 2013	100.00
Aug 2013	100.00
Sep 2013	99.97
Oct 2013	100.00
Nov 2013	100.00
Dec 2013	100.00

Jan 2014	100.00
Feb 2014	100.00
Mar 2014	99.68
Apr 2014	100.00
May 2014	100.00
Jun 2014	100.00

1.4 All navigational warnings (NAVAREA X, coastal and local warnings) are transmitted via SafetyNET on the IOR and POR satellites at the scheduled times of 0700 and 1900 UTC. Messages are also transmitted on receipt of the information.

1.5 Coastal warnings are transmitted via SafetyNET to nine defined B1 coastal areas. These coastal areas are A to H around the Australian coast (see Figure 1 below) and area N around New Caledonia. New Caledonia scheduled broadcasts are at 0140 and 1340 UTC.



**Figure 1: Coastal Warning Areas**

The above information is included in the Annual Australian Notices to Mariners which is available from the web site, <http://www.hydro.gov.au/n2m/about-notices.htm>

1.6 Weather broadcasts for METAREA X are the responsibility of the Australian Bureau of Meteorology. Details of the SafetyNET broadcasts can be obtained from the website: <http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/radio-sat/bureau-inmarsat.shtml>

1.7 The number of SafetyNET messages promulgated for METAREA X:

2011-2012	12,700
2012-2013	12,000
2013-2014	13,202

1.8 Operational Points of Contact for National Coordinators within NAVAREA X have been checked and confirmed as follows:

<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>	<b>FACSIMILE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
New Caledonia	+687 292332	+687 292303	mrcc.nc@lagoon.nc
Papua New Guinea	+675 3213033	+675 3213051	npion@nmsa.gov.pg
Solomon Islands	+677 21609	+677 23798	mrcc@solomon.com.sb
Vanuatu	+678 22339	+678 22475	jahlee@vanuatu.gov.vu

**Table 2: Points of Contact for NAVAREA X National Coordinators**

## 2. Comments

2.1 The details for Australia reported in the GMDSS Master Plan (GMDSS.1/Circ.16 dated 5 February 2014) have been checked. One correction that needs to be made is to change “RCC Australia” to “JRCC Australia” as Australia has a joint aeronautical and maritime rescue coordination centre. There are several other minor aspects of the Australian entries in the GMDSS Master Plan that have been updated post NCSR 1 in July 2014.

2.2 Warnings are monitored automatically via a POR (Canberra) and IOR (Fremantle) MES in almost real time using special EGC monitoring software which precludes the need to power down and reboot the MES at regular intervals. MSI traffic received on the POR and IOR by the NAVAREA X EGC monitors is provided to USA and New Zealand authorities in almost real time. The equipment and software is listed below.

<b>Equipment Type</b>	<b>Software Version</b>	<b>Date of Up-date</b>
Thrane & Thrane TT 3022A (Primary) Inmarsat C transceivers with TT3020B (Standby)	EMON Version 1.1	1990

2.3 Over the past three calendar years the following quantity of messages regarding MSI matters were received:

<b>2011</b>				<b>2012</b>				<b>2013</b>			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
1010	-	16	-	964	-	15	-	1031	-	17	-

2.4 Over the past three calendar years the following quantity of navigational warnings were issued over SafetyNET with average elapsed times:

<b>2011</b>		<b>2012</b>		<b>2013</b>	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time
501	18.5 min	425	12.5 min	426	12.3 min

### 3. NAVTEX Coverage

Australia does not broadcast navigational warnings on NAVTEX and no other National Coordinators use NAVTEX within NAVAREA X. Australian Coastal (AUSCOAST) warnings are broadcast via SafetyNET using the relevant C codes.

### 4. Operational Issues

4.1 No new infrastructure has been added in NAVAREA X.

4.2 NAVAREA X issues “In Force warnings” Bulletins.

4.3 NAVAREA X broadcasts navigational warnings until they have been promulgated in Notices to Mariners (NTM) plus one month to ensure that mariners have had an opportunity to obtain the information. The NTM becomes the sole source of any information and these are available through chart distributors such as Boatbooks or the NTM editions on the web: <http://www.hydro.gov.au/n2m/notices.htm><http://www.hydro.gov.au/n2m/notices.htm>

### 5. Quality Management Survey

NAVAREA	ISO 9001 -2008	Promulgate “In-Force” Bulletins	Promulgate “No-Warning” Messages	Monitor Broadcast in almost real time	24/7 contact information provided	Promulgate two scheduled broadcasts	IMO Master Plan updated
X	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

### 6. Contingency Planning

6.1 The NAVAREA X Coordinator’s primary work place within JRCC Australia in Canberra is supported by a disaster recovery facility (DRF) 13 kilometres north of the primary site. The DRF provides all the functionality of the primary site including computing and communication systems in an almost “hot standby” environment. In the past year, JRCC Australia/NAVAREA X Coordinator duty staff have twice transferred to the DRF and operated there for weeks at a time (July 2013 and May-June 2014).

### 7. Capacity Building

7.1 The AUSAID Project to provide a GMDSS capability in Papua New Guinea (PNG) has encountered difficulties with the siting of HF receivers and is not expected to be completed until December 2014. PNG warrants an improved capability for both navigational warnings and search and rescue purposes.

### 8. Other Activities: Meetings, Visits and Courses

8.1 The 12<sup>th</sup> South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) Meeting held in Port Vila, Vanuatu on 12-14 November 2013 was attended by more than 40 participants. These included delegates from the six IHO Member States in the region, the Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and industry.

8.2 The SWPHC Capacity Building Coordinator made Technical Visits to the Cook Islands and Tonga in October 2013 and March 2014 respectively, as part of 'Hydrography Risk Assessments' for the two countries. The hydrography risk assessment methodology is based on the IMO Formal Safety Assessment and provides the evidence to prioritise areas for maritime safety chart improvements.

8.3 The IMO, under its Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme (ITCP) and with support from the IHO, conducted a two-week regional training course 'Introduction to Hydrography and Hydrographic Governance' in Suva, Fiji from 16-27 June 2014. The Australian Hydrographic Office provided one of the instructors for this workshop, and participants included maritime policy advisors and administrators, sector managers and operators from the PICTs.

## **9. NAVAREA X Webpage**

Current NAVAREA X MSI can be obtained from the AMSA website at:  
<http://www.amsa.gov.au/search-and-rescue/distress-and-safety-comms/msi/>

The webpage allows the users to obtain the latest MSI by automatic response on the browser or it can be sent to an e-mail address. As well as all navigational warnings in force, there is a Summary of Mobile Drilling Rigs and a Summary of Special Purpose Vessels that are no longer available on SafetyNET as they will have been promulgated in Notices to Mariners Section III.

The MSI webpage is updated in almost real time when warnings are issued and cancelled, otherwise it updates every 30 minutes. The date and time of the last update is shown on the website and any download.

In total there were 16,675 unique visitors (non-repeat views) for the year 01 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 with an average time of 3.22 minutes spent on the page.

## **10. NAVAREA Contact Information**

No change to that currently promulgated.

## **11. Recommendations**

There are no recommendations.

## **12. Actions requested**

The Sub-Committee is invited to note the report.

## **13. Summary**

The NAVAREA X Self Assessment report highlights MSI activities for the period July 2013 to June 2014. The upgrading of Papua New Guinea's MSI capabilities is expected to be completed in December 2014.