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**PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION
FOR RADIOTELEPHONE ALARM SIGNAL
GENERATING DEVICES FOR USE IN
MERCHANT SHIPS**



TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY
HONG KONG

FOREWORD

1. This specification stipulates the minimum performance requirements for radiotelephone alarm signal generating devices for use in merchant ships, as required by the 1988 amendments to the 1974 International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) on the introduction of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).
2. Under the Merchant Shipping (Safety) (GMDSS Radio Installations) Regulation (hereafter referred to as the Regulation) under Sections 37 and 107 of the Merchant Shipping (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 369), every GMDSS equipment required to be provided under the Regulation --
 - a) shall conform to the relevant performance standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO); and
 - b) shall, in the case of equipment provided on Hong Kong ships, in addition, conform to appropriate performance specifications issued by the Telecommunications Authority (TA).
3. Under the provision of the Regulation, radiotelephone alarm signal generating devices for use in Hong Kong ships shall comply with this specification.
4. Type-approval of the equipment will be granted on the basis of satisfactory document evaluation of the certification issued by competent overseas authorities for the equipment. Where applicable, the application should list all type-numbers that apply to non-technical variants of the model submitted.
5. Manufacturers or their appointed agents, who wish to submit their radiotelephone alarm signal generating device for type-approval, shall apply to :

Radio Laboratory,
Standards Section,
Office of the Telecommunications Authority,
29/F., Wu Chung House,
213 Queen's Road, East, Wanchai
Hong Kong.

Tel. No. : +852 2343 7565

Fax No. : +852 2343 5824

6. The TA may amend any part of this specification as and when he deems necessary.
7. The TA reserves the right to conduct tests or evaluations on models he considers to be technical variants and whose performance may differ as between models.
8. In case of doubt about the interpretation of this specification, the methods of carrying out the test and the validity of statements made by the manufacturers of the equipment, the decision of the TA shall be final.

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1. SCOPE OF SPECIFICATION

This specification stipulates the minimum performance requirements for radiotelephone alarm signal generating devices for use in merchant ships, as required by the 1988 amendments to the 1974 International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) for the introduction of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS).

Equipment which comply with this specification shall be required to meet all relevant performance standards adopted by the relevant IMO Resolutions and technical characteristics as defined in the relevant ITU's Radio Regulations and Recommendations for the concerned equipment.

2. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Radiotelephone alarm signal generating devices for use in merchant ships shall comply with the basic technical requirements as defined in :-

- IMO Resolution A.421(XI) on "Operational Standards for Radiotelephone Alarm Signal Generators"

3. EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS

Radiotelephone alarm signal generating devices for use in merchant ships shall be evaluated in accordance with the relevant sections of the following technical standard:

- ETS 300 373 : Radio Equipment and Systems (RES); Technical Characteristics and Methods of Measurement for Maritime Mobile Transmitters and Receivers for Use in the MF and HF Bands, published by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

4. HOW TO OBTAIN TECHNICAL INFORMATION

4.1 The HKTA series specifications are issued by the Telecommunications Authority. The documents can be obtained through one of the following methods:-

- download direct through the OFTA's Internet Home Page. The Home Page address is <http://www.ofta.gov.hk>;
- download direct through the OFTA's Bulletin Board Service. The access details are given below:

BBS telephone number :	+852 2834 0119
Number of data bits:	8
Number of parity bit:	none
Number of stop bit	1
Flow Control:	Hardware
Terminal Mode:	ANSI
Default Protocol:	Zmodem is recommended
- hard copies will be available upon request to:-

Senior Telecommunications Engineer (Standards)
Standards Section,
Office of the Telecommunications Authority,
29/F Wu Chung House,
213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
Fax: +852 2803 5112

4.2 The publications of IMO can be obtained from :

International Maritime Organization
4 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SR
Tel: 0171-735 7611
Fax: 0171 587 3210

4.3 The technical specifications issued by the ETSI can be obtained from :

The Publications Office
ETSI, 06921
Sophia Antipolis CEDEX, France
Tel : + 33 92 94 42 41
Fax : + 33 93 95 81 33

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