



To: All NAVAREA and METAREA Coordinators

March 25, 2019

By email

Dear MSI Authorities

Iridium SafetyCast Service

This letter is being sent to all NAVAREA and METAREA Coordinators. It has been prepared in cooperation with the Chairs of the IHO WNWWS Sub-Committee and the WMO WWMIWS Committee, and it describes the steps being taken to implement the Iridium mobile satellite services in the GMDSS, including promulgation of Maritime Safety Information and SAR-related information.

In 2018, the IMO adopted resolution MSC.451(99), *Statement of recognition of the maritime mobile satellite services provided by Iridium Satellite LLC*, including Iridium's enhanced group calling service. Since then, Iridium's enhanced group call service has been named "Iridium SafetyCast".

Iridium has been working diligently to implement GMDSS services inside the Iridium network infrastructure. This includes connecting registered information providers to the Iridium SafetyCast service to test that they are able to send the information to Iridium for broadcast to ships.

Connection and Testing Program:

The connection and testing program will require all registered information providers to contact the Chair of the IMO Enhanced Group Call Coordinating Panel (previously referred to as the International SafetyNET Coordinating Panel) to receive an International Iridium SafetyCast Certificate of Authorization, issued for your area(s) of responsibility. Authorities who already have an International SafetyNET Certificate of Authorization will still need to request an International Iridium SafetyCast Certificate of Authorization, as these are two separate services.

The Iridium SafetyCast service is currently able to receive information by mail transfer connection methods (email or similar). In the coming weeks, Iridium SafetyCast will also be able to receive information by file-transfer protocol (FTP). Finally, web interface capabilities will be enabled for integration directly with the Iridium SafetyCast system.

Once the connection method has been established, your messages, including their C Codes, will enable testing of how information moves through the Iridium SafetyCast service. We will

initially focus on internal testing and organizing the messages within the Iridium system. This will allow Iridium to get a better understanding and perspective on the standards, content, format and structure of the MSI messages. The MSI messages used in this testing period will not be promulgated. The promulgation phase of testing will come at a later date, in accordance with the approval of the relevant IMO, IHO and WMO bodies.

Please note that there will be no cost for supplying messages to Iridium for the purposes of testing and evaluation during this period. Iridium will work with registered information providers during the testing period to establish arrangements for future operational service.

Next Steps:

1. Please submit a request for an International Iridium SafetyCast Certificate of Authorization to the Chair of the IMO EGC Coordinating Panel, and notify your relevant IMO, IHO or WMO authority to assist with coordination.
2. Once Certificates are issued, all registered information providers that currently use mail transfer methods (email or similar) to send messages for transmission are requested to add the appropriate email address to their standard MSI transmissions to send copies of their messages to Iridium:

Email address for NAVAREAs: nav@iridium.com

Email address for METAREAs: met@iridium.com

For system security purposes, please advise one of the contacts below of the originating address from which your messages will be sent.

3. For those Authorities who do not use mail transfer methods, Iridium will advise further when the additional test methods (FTP and web interface) of receipt are established.

Interim Iridium SafetyCast Operations Manual

An "interim" draft manual has been submitted to IMO and is expected to be published following MSC 101 (June 2019) as an MSC circular. If you do not have access to the draft circular, you can request a copy from the Chair of the WWNWS Sub-Committee or the Chair of the WWMIWS Committee.

Further information:

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact either the Chair of the WWNWS Sub-Committee or WWMIWS Committee, or either of the Iridium contacts below:

Kyle Hurst, Director, Iridium Maritime Safety and Security Services
Email: kyle.hurst@iridium.com

Dan Tillet, Director, Iridium Product Management
Email: daniel.tillet@iridium.com

Both of these contacts will be available throughout the connection and testing program to provide support and advice, if needed.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation in the program. We recognize your commitment to maintaining the safety of life at sea and we look forward to becoming an active part of the GMDSS and contributing to its improvement in the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "KH", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kyle Hurst, Director, Maritime Safety and Security Services, Iridium Satellite LLC

Copy to: Mr Peter Doherty, Chair, WWNWS Sub-Committee and Chair, IMO EGC Coordinating Panel

Copy to: Mr Neal Moodie, Chair, WWMIWS Committee