TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, AND AUTHORIZED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES

SUBJECT: Ship Radio Station Watchkeeping Hours

Reference: (a) Maritime Regulation 6-180
(b) ITU Radio Regulations - Article 58 and Appendix 12

Supersedes: Marine Notice 6-180-5 dated 1/98

PURPOSE:
This Notice provides guidelines on mandated ship radio station watchkeeping hours.

APPLICABILITY:
This Notice applies to all Liberian flag vessels equipped with ship radio stations.

REQUIREMENTS:
Effective immediately Ship Stations shall maintain the following hours\(^1\) of service:

1.0 First category Ship Stations are to maintain continuous service around the clock.

2.0 Second category Ships Stations: 0000-0400; 0800-1200; 1600-1800; 2000-2200;
and, additionally, four (4) hours of service at times to be decided by the Master, to meet the essential communication needs of the ship, having regard to propagation conditions and traffic requirements.

3.0 Third category Ship Stations: 0800-1200; two (2) continuous hours of service between 1800-2200; and, additionally, two (2) hours of service at times to be decided by the Master, to meet the essential communication needs of the ship, having regard to propagation conditions and traffic requirements.

4.0 Fourth category Ship Stations are urged to provide service from 0830-0930.

\(^{1}\) ALL RADIO WATCHKEEPING HOURS SHALL BE IN SHIPS TIME.