



TUVALU SHIP REGISTRY

Singapore Operations Office:

10 Anson Road #25-16, International Plaza, Singapore 079903

Tel: (65) 6224 2345 Fax: (65) 6227 2345

Email: info@tvship.com Website: www.tvship.com

MARINE CIRCULAR

MC-19/2012/1

11/2025

FOR: Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators, Ship Masters, Ship Officers, Classification Societies

SUBJECT: INMARSAT SERVICES UNDER RADIO ACCOUNTING AUTHORITIES AND INMARSAT SAFETYLINK PROVIDERS

DEFINITIONS:

The following abbreviations stand for:

- "ITU" – International Telecommunication Union
- "LRIT" – Long Range Identification and Tracking
- "MES" – Mobile Earth Station
- "RAA" – Radio Accounting Authority
- "RCC" – Rescue Coordination Centre
- "SSP" – Satellite Services Provider

The following term shall mean:

- "Administration" – Tuvalu Ship Registry.

PURPOSE:

This Marine Circular serves to provide important information relating to responsibilities and approval of SSPs such as a RAA or Inmarsat SafetyLink Provider (includes a SafetyLink Billing Party).

APPLICATION:

This Marine Circular applies to all Tuvalu flagged vessels:

- (a) on which Inmarsat MESs are, or will be, installed; and/or
- (b) are equipped with ship radio stations.

CONTENTS:

1. Ship owners are responsible for the selection of the SSP of their choice provided that the SSP is recognized by the Administration.
2. It is mandatory that all international maritime radio traffic charges for radio communication from ship to shore, both terrestrial and satellite, to be settled either by an approved RAA or SafetyLink Provider which has the legal contract with the owner of the vessel.
3. The approved RAA or SafetyLink Provider shall:
 - 3.1. assume the maritime mobile and maritime mobile satellite radio services accounting obligation.

- 3.2. be fully responsible for the payment of the radio and satellite communication charges including all activation, deactivation and change fees.
- 3.3. provide a written guarantee to the Administration that no charges will accrue to the account of the Administration and the Tuvalu Government and ensure that the guarantee remains fully effective.
4. All ship owners / managers / operators should ensure that all radio and satellite communication charges are sent to the approved RAA or SafetyLink Provider only and not to any other third party. In the event that an approved RAA or SafetyLink Provider does not remit proper and timely payments on behalf of the ship station licensee:
 - 4.1. The ship station licensee will be responsible for making arrangements for another approved RAA or SafetyLink Provider to perform future settlements;
 - 4.2. The ship station licensee will settle any outstanding accounts due to radio stations or communications entities;
 - 4.3. The Administration will NOT be liable for any outstanding accounts due to radio stations, approved RAA, SafetyLink Providers, or any other communications entities.
5. All SSPs must maintain procedures for resolving complaints and/or inquiries from its contractual customers (i.e. vessels for which it performs settlements), the ITU, and foreign Administrations or their agents. These procedures must be available to the Administration upon request.
6. A SSP that causes a mandatory barring to be raised on a maritime mobile earth station must:
 - 6.1. notify the Administration 14 days in advance that the maritime mobile earth station will be barred;
 - 6.2. in the case of an unpaid account, ensure the invoice is outstanding for at least 3 months;
 - 6.3. implement the barring in such a way that the ability of a vessel to use distress communication, security alerts and transmitting LRIT Data is not impeded;
 - 6.4. be prepared throughout the 24-hour day to be able to quickly unbar the mobile earth station if requested by a RCC either directly or through Inmarsat, to facilitate RCC response to a distress situation.
7. SSPs that wish to obtain approval for Tuvalu-flagged vessels shall contact the Administration at info@tvship.com and submit the following documents:
 - 7.1. Certificate of Incorporation/Registration
 - 7.2. Company Articles of Association
 - 7.3. Audited Financial Statements from past 3 years
 - 7.4. Authorization as RAA by resident country (if applicable)
 - 7.5. Service Provider Agreement with ship owners
 - 7.6. Letter of Guarantee confirming:
 - 7.6.1. that the SSP will assume the responsibility for all radio communication charges for Tuvalu-flagged vessels using its services.
 - 7.6.2. Notify the Administration of any vessel contract commencement or termination.
 - 7.6.3. Compliance with applicable ITU regulations

8. The SSP(s) approved by Tuvalu is/are asf:

MCS (FE) Pte Ltd

Tel: +65-6222-1826

Fax: +65-6222-1828

Email: mcs@maritimecomms.com

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Registrar
Tuvalu Ship Registry