

M.S. Notice 23 of 1998

Subject : Annual Servicing of EPIRBs/SARTs

The Nautical Adviser to the Govt. of India has reviewed the requirement of testing and servicing of EPIRBs and SARTs in accordance with the Third Schedule (4)(a) of M. S. (Distress & Safety Radio Communication) Rules 1995.B

Henceforth, Satellite EPIRBs & SARTs shall be tested at intervals not exceeding 12 months for all aspects of operational efficiency with particular emphasis on frequency stability, signal strength and coding. However, in cases where it appears proper and reasonable, the administration may extend this period to 17 months. The test may be conducted on board the ship or at an approved testing or servicing station.

All Indian ships carrying two EPIRBs on board may land one of them ashore for short period while coasting for the purposes of testing & servicing the EPIRBs where difficulties arise due to non-availability of servicing stations, etc. SARTs should not be landed ashore.

Sd/-

(Capt R. K. Awasthi)

Nautical Surveyor