



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

CIRCULAR No 2

Our ref: 24.01.2019 No 5-1-7/2

For usage of digital nautical publications on ships flying the Estonian flag

Equivalent arrangements accepted under regulation I/5 of SOLAS 1974, as amended.

The Estonian Maritime Administration shall determine to what extent the provisions of regulations 15, 17, 18, 19 and 27 do not apply to the following categories of ships:

- ships with a gross tonnage of less than 150 engaged in international voyages;
- ships with a gross tonnage of less than 500 engaged in coastal shipping; and
- fishing vessels.

Regulations V/27 and V/19.2.1.4 of SOLAS 1974, as amended, require all ships to carry up-to-date nautical publications for the intended voyage.

The Estonian Maritime Administration accepts on Estonian ships the carriage of nautical publications in digital form provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

1. Digital nautical publications are issued officially by or on the authority of a Government authorized hydrographical office or another relevant Government institution.
2. Digital nautical publications are updated. Installations of updates shall be traceable and made available for inspection by relevant authorities. Ships which under the requirements of the Maritime Safety Act are liable to implement on board the International Safety Management (ISM) system shall indicate the relevant procedures in their ISM manual.
3. Data shall not be editable by the user and the computer shall be protected from viruses and other malware.
4. Digital nautical publications are installed on the computer which is used solely for navigational tasks and which has its power supply from the main and emergency power sources. The computer shall be situated on the navigational bridge and be available to the watch officer at any time.
5. Computers and their peripheral devices shall be installed as per requirements of regulation V/17 of SOLAS 1974, as amended regarding electromagnetic compatibility, and shall take into account criteria for night vision and regulations V/15 and V/18 of SOLAS 1974, as amended.
6. Computers and their peripheral devices shall be installed with regard to the MSC/Circ.891 Guidelines for on board use and application of computers.

7. As a backup, the up-to-date digital nautical publications shall be installed on an additional computer used for navigational tasks and ship administration only. The computer shall be available to the watch officer within reasonable time.
8. The Master and all the navigational watch officers shall be competent in handling digital navigational publications.

Sincerely

(signed digitally)  
Marek Rauk  
Head of Maritime Safety Division  
Deputy Director General