

2.3 Equipment requirements (including duplication of equipment) for SOLAS ships

GMDSS equipment requirements in force for all ships to which SOLAS chapter IV applies:

(SOLAS chapter IV)

Equipment	A1	A2	A3	A4
VHF telephony installation with DSC capable of:	x	x	x	x
DSC watch on channel 70	x	x	x	x
Radiotelephony watch on channel 16	x	x	x	x
Watch on other appropriate frequency or frequencies for urgency and safety communications for the area in which the ship is navigating	x	x	x	x
MF telephony ⁶ installation with MF DSC capable of:		x	x	
DSC watch on 2 187.5 kHz		x	x	
Watch on other appropriate frequency or frequencies for urgency and safety communications for the area in which the ship is navigating		x	x	
SES providing RMSS			x	
MF/HF telephony ⁶ installation with DSC capable of:				x
DSC watch on 2 187.5 kHz and 8 414.5 kHz				x
Depending on time of day and geographical position, DSC watch on at least one of the frequencies 4 207.5 kHz, 6 312 kHz, 12 577 kHz or 16 804.5 kHz				x
Watch on other appropriate frequency or frequencies for urgency and safety communications for the area in which the ship is navigating				x
Duplicated VHF with DSC	x ⁷	x ⁷	x	x
Duplicated MF ⁶ with DSC		x ⁷		
Duplicated SES providing RMSS			x ^{4, 5}	
Duplicated MF/HF telephony ⁶ with DSC			x ⁴	x
Receiver(s) for MSI and SAR-related information ³	x	x	x	x
Float-free EPIRB	x	x	x	x
Radar SART or AIS SART	x ¹	x ¹	x ¹	x ¹
Portable GMDSS VHF transceivers	x ²	x ²	x ²	x ²
Automatic updating of position to all relevant radiocommunication equipment	x	x	x	x
The following additional requirements apply to passenger ships				
"Distress panel" and "distress alarm panel" (SOLAS regulations IV/6.4 and 6.6)	x	x	x	x
Two-way-on-scene radiocommunication on 121.5 MHz and 123.1 MHz from the navigating bridge. (SOLAS regulation IV/7.6)	x	x	x	x

¹ Cargo ships between 300 and 500 gt.: 1 set. Cargo ships of 500 gt. and upwards and passenger ships: 2 sets.

² Cargo ships between 300 and 500 gt.: 2 sets. Cargo ships of 500 gt. and upwards and passenger ships: 3 sets.

³ This may be either a combined ship earth station and EGC receiver or separate pieces of equipment.

⁴ Ships in sea area A3 may choose between duplication with either complete MF/HF transceiver or SES providing an RMSS with coverage equal to or broader than the primary RMSS (See section 1.6.3).

⁵ See section 1.6.3.2.

⁶ A single MF/HF radio installation may be accepted both as a primary MF radio installation and a duplicated MF/HF radio installation, as provided in this circular.

⁷ See section 1.6.3.1.