

Commonwealth of Dominica**Office of the Maritime Administrator**

TO: ALL SHIPOWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS AND OFFICERS OF MERCHANT SHIPS, MOBILE OFFSHORE DRILLING UNITS AND RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATIONS

SUBJECT: Vessel Reporting Systems That Assist In Search and Rescue

PURPOSE: This Circular emphasizes the significant role that Vessel Reporting Systems contribute to the well being of ships and seafarers. Casualty investigations conducted by Administrations have positively revealed the immense value reporting systems play in saving life and property.

APPLICABILITY: All Masters and Owners are strongly urged to participate and co-operate in these systems.

DESCRIPTION:**1.0 AMVER**

- 1.1 The Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System (AMVER) program is operated by the United States Coast Guard for the benefit of mariners of all Nations, at no cost to participating ships.
- 1.2.1 When vessels participate in the U.S. Coast Guard AMVER program, the track and all reported fixes are entered into the AMVER computer plot and made available to the Rescue Coordinating Center (RCC) that has the assigned Search and Rescue (SAR) responsibility for the area in which the vessel is operating.
- 1.3 Details of the AMVER program and procedures may be obtained from:

Commander, Atlantic Area
United States Coast Guard
Federal Building
431 Crawford Street
Portsmouth, Virginia 23704-5004, USA

Telephone: (804) 398-6231

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Inquiries concerning the subject of this Circular should be directed to the Deputy Maritime Administrator
Commonwealth of Dominica, 32 Washington Street, Fairhaven, MA 02719 USA
registration@dominica-registry.com

Telefax: (804) 398-6392

2.0 Australia

2.1 Owners and Masters of vessels trading in sea areas adjacent to Australia are advised that the Australian Department of Transport operates a Vessel Reporting System which is coordinated with Search and Rescue operations. This program is compulsory for ships arriving at or sailing from Australian ports.

2.2 Details of the Australian program and procedures may be obtained from:

- .1 Department of Transport and Communications
Marine Operations Centre
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia
- .2 The Mercantile Marine Office at any principal Australian port.

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