

RESOLUTION A.701(17) adopted on 6 November 1991  
CARRIAGE OF INMARSAT ENHANCED GROUP CALL SAFETYNET RECEIVERS UNDER THE  
GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM (GMDSS)

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION



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Agenda item 10

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THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety,

RECALLING ALSO that carriage of INMARSAT SafetyNET receive facilities is required under regulation IV/7.1.5 of the 1988 amendments to the 1974 SOLAS Convention concerning radiocommunications for the global maritime distress and safety system,

RECOGNIZING that performance standards for such equipment are prescribed in resolution A.664(16),

NOTING that resolution A.701(17) on radio maintenance guidelines for the GMDSS related to sea areas A3 and A4, does not require duplication of the enhanced group call receive facility in ships opting for equipment duplication,

NOTING ALSO that resolution A.664(16) allows such equipment to be combined with an INMARSAT-C or INMARSAT-A ship earth station (SES), or other equipment,

NOTING FURTHER that such equipment combined with another SES may miss important maritime safety information (MSI), if that SES is left tuned to an ocean region satellite other than the one broadcasting relevant maritime safety information,

RECOMMENDS that, in order to ensure reception of MSI broadcasts via the International SafetyNET service:

(a) MSI providers make:

- (i) unscheduled SafetyNET broadcasts of distress alerts and urgent warnings through all INMARSAT ocean region satellites covering their area of responsibility;

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- (ii) routine SafetyNET broadcasts through at least one designated satellite in accordance with a pre-arranged schedule co-ordinated by the Organization;
  - (b) Governments ensure that up-to-date publications providing information on MSI broadcasts are included among the nautical publications required to be carried aboard ships in accordance with SOLAS regulation V/20;
  - (c) Governments encourage ships to carry an INMARSAT enhanced group call receive facility, with an omnidirectional antenna, dedicated to the reception of MSI via the international SafetyNET service.
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